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Russian-U.S. Talks Prepare for Summit

ITAR-TASS reports that Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev met with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker in London on 12 June to continue talks "on a further reduction of strategic offensive armaments." According to Kozyrev, "significant progress has been achieved at the Russian-American talks." Belgrade TANJUG reports that "diplomatic circles in London" noted that the talks also concerned "a joint action to provide humanitarian aid to the residents of Sarajevo." Under the accord, the "largest humanitarian action in the history of mankind would be launched" as large "transport planes would be used to fly food and medicine to Sarajevo," pending approval by U.S. President George Bush and Russian President Boris Yeltsin during their summit meeting.

New Russian Posts Announced

According to Radio Rossii, Russian President Boris Yeltsin appointed Yegor Gaydar "acting chairman" of the Russian Government and Aleksandr Shokhin "will continue to work in the post of vice premier" although he was removed from the post of minister of labor and employment of Russia. ITAR-TASS reports Yeltsin "signed a decree relieving Sergey Shakhray of his duties" as state counsellor of the Russian Federation.

Protestors Picket Moscow TV Center

The Russian Ostankino TV Center was the scene of a rally which "began 'relatively quietly'" and "according to various estimates" consisted of 15,000 to 50,000 people by midday, 12 June, according to Moscow TV. The participants, including members of "Working Russia" and "other communist-oriented movements," accused the workers of First Channel of "betraying the interests of the Russian people," and called for the resignation of the government. Demanding air time of at least 15 minutes to one hour on First Channel, the demonstrators "blocked all approaches to the TV center," organized "round-the-clock picketing," and staged a hunger strike.

Company chairman Yegor Yakovlev refused their demands, but the leadership of the Ostankino TV and radio company "confirmed their readiness to begin official talks with the Council about the organization of a regular program, the name of which is to be determined as the talks progress." The hunger strike has been suspended until the talks begin on 15 June.

Offensive Launched in Nagorno-Karabakh

ITAR-TASS reports that on 12 June Azerbaijani forces began a "large-scale attack" on Nagorno-Karabakh, involving "more than 100 tanks and armored vehicles" as well as "SU-25 aircraft and Mi-24 helicopters." Yerevan Radio notes that "poisonous chemical bombs" were dropped during this operation "to separate the Shaumyanovskiy and Mardakert regions from the rest of Nagorno-Karabakh," reports ITAR-TASS. Yerevan Radio reports that this offensive was prepared "with the direct participation of Turkish military experts." Moscow Radio notes the briefing by Armenian presidential adviser Ashot Manucharyan that "all populated areas in the Shaumyanovskiy Rayon...had been occupied" by the Azerbaijani forces.

Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan, while in Rio de Janeiro for the world ecological forum, urged the United Nations to send troops to Nagorno-Karabakh "to disengage the warring sides," reports ITAR-TASS. The president said that "'Armenia will have no choice but to undertake resolute action and provide the necessary aid and support to defend the rights and security of Nagorno-Karabakh's people.'" The Azerbaijani presidential press service also issued a statement which urged the international community to "'demand an immediate cease-fire and to protect the civilians and the people of Azerbaijan from physical elimination.'"

International Affairs

Kozyrev, Baker Meet in London for More Talks

'Significant Progress' Made

LD1306064192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0448 GMT 13 Jun 92

[By TASS correspondents Yuriy Sidorov and Gennadiy Shmelev]

[Text] London June 13 TASS—Significant progress has been achieved at the Russian-American talks on a further reduction of strategic offensive armaments. This was announced by Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker at a press conference, held in London on Friday [12 June].

At the same time, they refused to make public the details of the talks held in the premises of the Russian Embassy in Britain, explaining it by the need to inform of them Presidents Yeltsin and Bush, in the first place. Baker stressed they were looking forward to the visit of the Russian president and foreign minister to Washington, which starts next Monday [15 June]. According to the U.S. secretary of state, there is a good opportunity to sign a concrete agreement on strategic offensive armaments, but there will be no agreement, until the presidents discuss the problem in a comprehensive way.

"We have made a major step forward, but it is the forthcoming meeting of the two presidents which will be of decisive importance," Kozyrev pointed out.

Aside from disarmament problems, Kozyrev and Baker discussed the situation in Bosnia and Hercegovina. Russia and the United States decided to develop cooperation in rendering humanitarian assistance to this former Yugoslav Republic. Both countries supported the growing role of the United Nations organisation in settling the situation in the region.

Aid for Sarajevo Discussed

LD1206223292 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2110 GMT 12 Jan 92

[Text] London, June 12 (TANJUG)—U.S. State Secretary James Baker and Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev agreed in London on Friday night [12 June] on a joint action to provide humanitarian aid to the residents of Sarajevo, diplomatic circles in London claimed.

Under the accord, the largest humanitarian action in the history of mankind would be launched and large transport planes used to fly food and medicine to Sarajevo, the capital of the war-torn former Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina. The plan is yet to be approved by the Presidents George Bush and Boris Yeltsin, during their meeting in Washington next week.

Baker and Kozyrev drew up the agenda for the U.S.-Russian summit, and the Yugoslav crisis figured high on the list.

Baker is later on Friday night [12 June] also to confer with British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd.

Meet With UK's Hurd

LD1306064792 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0405 GMT 13 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Moscow, 13 Jun—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev this morning returned from London, where on 12 June he met U.S. Secretary of State James Baker.

The two countries' foreign ministers discussed a range of arms problems, above all those involving drafting parameters for a framework for an agreement limiting strategic offensive arms. Kozyrev and Baker told a news conference after the talks that they had made "significant progress." However, the final set of parameters for an agreement on limiting strategic offensive arms has still not been agreed upon.

UK Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd held a private meeting with Kozyrev and Baker on the same day.

Bush Voices 'Satisfaction'

PM1506101992 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 4

[ITAR-TASS report: "Russian-American Agreements Ready for Signing"]

[Text] President G. Bush has voiced satisfaction at the results of the London talks between Secretary of State J. Baker and Russian Foreign Minister A. Kozyrev.

V. Lukin, Russian ambassador to the United States, stated that during B. Yeltsin's visit to the United States it is expected that 12-15 Russian-U.S. agreements will be signed, including an agreement on the further reduction of strategic offensive arms.

Yeltsin, Bush To Meet in Washington for Summit

Agenda Previewed

LD1406034492 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2030 GMT 13 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Fedyashin; "Yeltsin's U.S. Agenda"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, 14 Jun—Russian President Boris Yeltsin's airplane will land at Andrews Air Force Base at 1630 local time on 15 June. The first, two-day state visit by a Russian leader to the United States will begin on 16 June with an official greetings ceremony in the White

House. The White House and Blair House (the residence of the U.S. President's official guests) are on Pennsylvania Avenue, which has already been decorated with tricolor Russian state flags. Boris Yeltsin and his wife will stay at Blair House during the two-day official visit.

Much in the present visit is connected with the word "first": Boris Yeltsin will be the first Russian president to visit the United States in the history of Russian-U.S. relations; he will be the first Russian president upon whom the honor of addressing a joint sitting of both chambers of Congress will be conferred, an honor conferred on only five other foreign leaders; he will be the first Russian president to address U.S. Naval Academy students; he will be the first Russian head of state to pay an official visit since the USSR's disintegration, the end of the Cold War, and the radical change in Russian-U.S. relations from confrontation and hostility to partnership and cooperation.

U.S. President George Bush and Boris Yeltsin will meet one-on-one in the White House at 1100 on 16 June. Both leaders have called each other "George" and "Boris" since their unofficial meeting at Camp David in February. The Russian president has already said that he hopes direct talks with the U.S. leader will resolve the remaining differences on the problem of deep, more large-scale cuts in strategic nuclear arms than those mentioned in the strategic offensive arms treaty. Such an agreement will make it possible to reduce the nuclear warhead arsenal to 4,700 on each side, i.e. to reduce them by almost 50 percent compared to the proposed 30 percent.

The visit will truly be historic since it is called upon to strengthen the new status of relations between Russia and the United States as allies in world affairs. The change in relations is of great significance but does not signify that the visit will be an easy "triumphal stroll." THE WASHINGTON POST recently noted that the transition from hostility to friendship brings additional difficulties: "Solving problems with friends is always a more labor-intensive and complex matter than settling problems with opponents that are often painted two colors: black and white."

The U.S. side reports that over 10 major Russian-U.S. documents will be signed during the visit, including the key "Washington Charter" proposed for signing. A high-ranking Administration spokesman says it is called upon to be "the agenda for action" for the United States and Russia to strengthen new "values, hopes, and plans" determining the character of their ties.

It is also expected that a number of economic, military, and scientific and technical agreements will be signed in Washington, including a new agreement on taxation and investment that will remove a number of obstacles to U.S. companies' expanded participation in developing the Russian economy and an agreement on cooperation in opening up space. An agreement on setting up a joint missile attack early-warning computer center may be signed. The agreement "on open lands" proposed for signing will be very important as it will finally remove all restrictions to the movement of Russian diplomats, journalists, and businessmen on U.S. territory and of their U.S. colleagues on Russian territory. Russia is now the only country of the former USSR to which these Cold War restrictions still apply.

It is expected that the two presidents will issue a joint statement on ways to settle the crisis and end the bloody civil war in Yugoslavia, as well as a statement calling on the DPRK to join the nuclear arms nonproliferation regime and a statement on Cuba.

U.S. sources report that certain delays in Russia's internal economic reforms may postpone signing of the IMF agreement which would make it possible to "release" the $24 billion in economic aid allocated to Russia. The U.S. Congress's workload also makes it impossible to adopt a package of documents on U.S. aid by the time the Russian president arrives.

Boris Yeltsin will meet U.S. Vice President Quayle, Secretary of State Baker, and representatives of major U.S. businesses in Washington. He will visit Kansas at the invitation of Senator Robert Dole after completing the official part of the visit.

Yeltsin Meets With U.S. Ambassador

OW1306170792 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1634 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] As "IF" [INTERFAX] reported earlier, in the first half of the day on June 13 the Russian President Boris Yeltsin received the US Ambassador to Russia Robert Strauss. According to a more precise information, the meeting was held in the suburban residence of the President located 45 kilometers from Moscow.

According to the information received by "IF", their meeting was primarily devoted to discussing possibilities of expediting the process of nuclear disarmament in the framework of preparation to the summit in Washington. The Russian President stressed that "both parties must go along a similar route". Discussing the documents to be signed in Washington, Yeltsin especially distinguished "Charter on Principles of Relations Between US and Russia" and "Framework Agreement on Reduction of Nuclear Arms".

Some days ago in his interview with "IF" the Russian President noted that in contrast to the START Treaty "Charter" provides a more direct and shorter way to the realization of the programme of strategic arms reductions as it does not need to be ratified in the Parliament. Yeltsin also said that "Framework Agreement" will be more resolute and effective compared with any agreements on limitations of nuclear arms reached before.

But several days ago a senior Russian diplomat told "IF" that in the course of the Russian Foreign Minister

Andrey Kozyrev's visit to the US early this week "the parties could not coordinate some details of the "Framework Agreement" as the Americans demanded too much".

In particular, the US insisted on such a reduction of ICBMs which the Russian military experts consider "extreme". The US propose their variant in accordance with which Russia would be forced to cut much more its ICBMs than the Americans their SLBMS.

Among other issues the Russian Minister Andrey Kozyrev and US State Secretary James Baker examined the prospect for conclusion a "Framework Agreement" on Friday [12 June] and Saturday [13 June] in London. The Russian Foreign Ministry made no comments on the outcome of these negotiations on "IF"'s request.

According to available in "IF" data, an issue on concrete assistance on the part of world community in support of the Russian political and economic reforms was also discussed at the meeting of the Russian President with the U.S. Ambassador on June 13.

Political Climate Examined

LD1506024592 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1900 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Commentary by N. Svanidze; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Perhaps the patriarch's blessing will help Russian President Boris Yeltsin convince the West that his new government appointments will not reflect on the rate of economic reform. Meanwhile, the West cannot fail to notice that Yeltsin has traded in Gaydar's team, leaving Gaydar as a counterweight to the conservatives and as a lure to get financial aid. It is also difficult to ignore the confusion that has struck the democratic camp. With the weakening of their personal influence on the president and the change in the government's composition, the democrats are left with no effective political levers. As a rule, the streets belong to the opposition in times of crisis. Sensing Yeltsin's hesitation and the weakness in democrat ranks, extremist, procommunist organizations have become more active. Finding support among the most deprived, and dredging up supporters from the lower depths of society, they have been picketing at Ostankino for three days now. The red calico flags and the anti-Semitic slogans have a single aim: to intimidate the authorities. Pressure from reactionaries and the democrats' passiveness go a long way to explain Yeltsin's desire to stabilize the country's situation through a conservative freezing of reform. However, the West, from which ready money is wanted, may not understand this.

Yeltsin to Meet Business Leaders

LD1506060292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0545 GMT 15 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Fedyashin]

[Text] Washington June 15 TASS—President Boris Yeltsin of the Russian Federation is expected to arrive in Washington today on his first official state visit to the United States. George Bush wishes success to Gorbachev, a spokesman for the Administration said on the eve of the Russian-American summit.

It is generally believed that the meeting will have historic significance because it gives an opportunity to consolidate new partnership relations between the United States and Russia.

American news analysts believe that the attainment of that goal will largely depend on whether the two presidents will manage to establish, or rather strengthen, personal relations. Although Bush and Yeltsin consider themselves to be "friends" since the unofficial summit in Camp David this February and address each other in telephone conversations "George" and "Boris", both leaders have serious problems at home which cannot but tell on the relations between Russia and the United States.

Although more than a dozen important agreements in political, military, economic, scientific and technological fields will be signed in Washington, Bush will not be able to present a "gift" to Yeltsin in the form of aid package to Russia approved by Congress. This is explained by a heavy workload at Congress. Legislators received the package only two months ago and are physically unable to approve the bill by Yeltsin's arrival.

In business relations, Bush and Yeltsin on Wednesday [17 June] will address participants in the bilateral conference of businessmen from the U.S. and Russia at the White House. The U.S. President already urged American companies to cooperate with Russia, and U.S. business circles would like to hear from Yeltsin about measures to remove existing obstacles on the road to expansion of American investments into the Russian economy. Immediately after the speech, Yeltsin must meet at his Blair House residence U.S. Secretary of Commerce Barbara Franklin and eight leaders of major American corporations.

American experts have different assessments of the possibility of strengthening personal relations between the presidents, although most of them predict their improvement.

More on Forthcoming Visit

LD1406181192 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1910 GMT 13 Jun 92

["Top Priority" program with Irina Tkachenko holding a studio discussion on Boris Yeltsin's forthcoming U.S. visit with Jonathon Sanders, CBS Moscow correspondent, and Mikhail Bezrukov, a political analyst from the Institute of U.S. and Canada Studies]

[Text] [Tkachenko] Hello, I'm Irina Tkachenko. Welcome to Top Priority.

When Russian President Boris Yeltsin goes to Washington, what is the message that he can bring to the American people and what should the Russians back home expect from this trip? I'm talking at the studios of Radio Moscow to Jonathon Sanders, a CBS correspondent here in Moscow, and Mikhail Bezrukhov, an expert and political analyst from the Institute for US and Canada Studies, also here in Moscow.

Market reforms in Russia, bilateral relations, further steps in disarmament, the framework of another agreement on cuts in strategic missiles—the agenda for Yeltsin's talks with George Bush seems to be important, yet somehow rather routine. What makes this summit important? And why does Boris Yeltsin need this at this point in time, Jonathon?

[Sanders] Well I think this summit is important because Boris Yeltsin can rescue the failing image of George Bush as a leader, as a man who can do anything at a time when George Bush is running third in the polls among American voters. He can show George Bush matters in the world and he can also show the American people one important thing: there is leadership in Russia after Mikhail Gorbachev. The American people still think Mikhail Gorbachev is the be-all and end-all of leadership; they don't see the negative sides of what he has done, or, more importantly, what he failed to do—the economic disaster that he left behind for Boris Yeltsin to clean up. And Boris Yeltsin can dispel the American propaganda myth that he's a Siberian drunken bear ravaging and rampaging all over the place. Yeltsin can also talk about some of the accomplishments and many of the needs in changing Russia and he can collect a lot of promises, but until the American elections's over, those promises are about as worth, worth as much as the rubles they are printed on.

[Tkachenko] So the primary aim then, would be the improvement in Mr. Yeltsin's profile in the West. However, for the internal Russian needs the trip to Washington does not seem to be a top priority, or is it, Mikhail?

[Bezrukov] Oh, I think it is a top priority for any person who knows something real about our economy. While people are right in saying that Russia can rescue itself only with her own hands. Still, without the assistance from the West not so much could be done. And people who are involved in business and economics know this very well.

[Tkachenko] Let me dwell for a second on what you just said about the importance of Western aid to the progress of market reforms in Russia. Boris Yeltsin does not have much to say, does not have many arguments to convince the West of the need to help the Russians because this is not the first year that Russia has been getting some aid—humanitarian and otherwise—from the West. However, the....

[?Sanders, interrupting] However small. However small and insignificant.

[Tkachenko]....the results, however, are not that visible. So what can Mr. Yeltsin now tell the Americans during this election year to lend a hand?

[Bezrukov] First of all I would like to say it's very difficult to ask for foreign assistance during the year of elections that they have now in America. I remember very well, that this spring the American press was practically silent about the issue of helping Russia till the moment when former President Nixon raised this issue and President Bush picked it and suddenly they started at last talking about assisting Russia. Well I think, in America, at least reasonable people understand very well that there should be assistance to Russia. Well, it's too huge a problem, I mean Russia's too big a fellow to be ignored by the world community. But how to do this, that's another question. How to sell this to American public, how to explain to the people that here it's very important what kind of news comes from Russia to America. I mean, news about reforms, news about stability with respect to all as far as government is concerned. I mean, when there are some changes and switches about who is going to preside the economic reforms in Russia. I mean one moment people are very much favor of Gaydar then there are rumors about some former apparatchik taking control. [sentence as received] Well, for them there in America it's so important because it can change the basic attitudes towards Russia. It's much more important than we think here.

[Sanders] That's right, [words indistinct] should stay in charge of the economic reform program.

[Tkachenko] However, let's imagine a scenario when the Americans, Western Europe, get pre-occupied with their problems—and these are many at the moment—and engage in what one of the political observers here calls (?depontive) isolation, just as you cork a vessel, are you going to ignore Russia with its perennial crisis, with the insurmountable problems and with the tremendous needs that nobody can accommodate at the moment. What if, with the Congress in America that has not yet approved the financial aid package to Russia, this aid package is not forthcoming at all, what happens?

[Sanders] Well it teaches a very important lesson about how reliable a trading partner America could be, a lesson that's been learned here at the time of the invasion of Afghanistan. I think it sends a message about the lack of leadership in American politics. One of the amazing things really is that while you have a series, like them or not, of dynamic leaders of various kinds in Russia, the American political landscape is bereft of people who want to get up and lead the country in a new and different direction. I think it also leaves America, and leaves Russia, in the position where this huge military industrial complex is wasting billions and billions of dollars and rubles in depriving people of things they need, including becoming more productive so they can compete with Japan and Germany or continue to lumber along. The problem is that on the issue of conversion, on the issue of reducing military expenditures, on the issue of how America and Russia can help one another there is no new thinking.

[Tkachenko] The standing of Mr. Yeltsin, how can it be affected by the trip that can, as you have suggested—actually that you both have suggested—that cannot bring much in terms of practical results—after all the image in the West is something that is so remote to the Russians threatened with everyday problems that their expectations for this trip are not going to be fulfilled.

[Bezrukhov] My prediction is that Boris Yeltsin this time will show a very strong and hard hand to Washington. I mean he will feel that we are very much in an inferior position and somebody to whom you can dictate, and I guess that will be his feeling and this will be his message when he returns from Washington. And this will also mean that if Russia is to get some assistance from the West, it should abide by certain rules and he will feel that in Washington.

[Sanders] And I think that he can do two things that are going to have no immediate impact here but are very important: One is he can keep meeting senators and politicians who will be the building blocks to the post-election year process that he's got to get underway—that's very important proof to them that he is not this wild Siberian bear who's drunk. Second, conceivably, if he does by some great action, symbolic action with George Bush, recapture in a positive way attention of the American electorate for George Bush, George Bush then wins, George Bush is going to owe him a tremendous amount after the election.

[Tkachenko] What's Mr. Yeltsin's role in this variety of the CIS leaders that has replaced the single leadership of the former Soviet Union? Russia still remains the biggest, the most powerful, the most economically capable republic. However, the amount of attention given to Russia compared to the amount of attention the Soviet leadership had been getting in the old days is smaller. Is that going to tell on Mr. Yeltsin's foreign politics? Some people are suspecting that he may want to strengthen his authoritarian tendency in bossing others around.

[Bezrukhv] Well, I'm not sure I can share this point of view, I mean, that he might try to strengthen his authoritarian rule—(?probably that's not worth) reward. I also don't like when people say that probably Russia now is the strongest among all the former Soviet republics. Probably it's the biggest among new persons of the territory of the Soviet Union. Also with the nuclear capability—that's my verdict.

[Sanders] Well I think it's certainly the least weak. That's the way I would put it. I certainly think that Yeltsin does want to position himself as the international focal point for relations back into what was the Soviet Union, but you can't put Humpty Dumpty back together again and I'm not sure that come New Year's 1993 or come the anniversary of Russian freedom next June that we're going to see an organization called the CIS still in existence. There will be some organization, no question about it. Whether it will be the same one I simply don't know. And the key question, of course, is the relationship Russia with Ukraine, because Russian-Latvian, Russian-Estonian relations make a lot of noise in the United States, but when you come right down to it they don't matter.

[Tkachenko] This relationship between Russia and Ukraine seems to be going from bad to worse. There are ebbs and flows. However, President Yeltsin's just announced that Russia will be taking good care of establishing its borders with Ukraine. The relationship with Moldova, another important republic in the western part of what was formerly the Soviet Union is also not the best of all, with president of Moldova charging several times that it's in a state of war with Russia, however vehemently that has been denied by the Russian officials. Do you think Washington can play a role at all in mediating some of these conflicts and risks?

[Sanders] Some of the nationality issues go back for years and I think it's going to give people a kind of bitter-sweet lesson in Washington those who pay attention that there were some good things about the Soviet power, that it kept certain issues under control. Some of these issues are like Ireland—Northern Ireland—like the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, they are not going to be easily resolved. Some of them are nationality issues that are rooted in issues of poverty, unequal distribution of wealth, and of course economic aid would help in some of these areas. And that's not going to be forthcoming right away. The United States, because of domestic politics, has to pay attention to certain issues—Armenians are an important voting block in Southern California, so you are going to hear lots of nice things about Armenia in Nagorno-Karabakh and not too much about Azeris. But at this point I don't think the United States can do a lot. The United States is just appointing ambassadors to some of these places. The men—they are all men—we had an opportunity to appoint some women ambassadors but this administration didn't do that—they are just learning the languages and the physical terrain of the region so, you know, lack of attention to the outlying regions of Moscow is going hurt U.S. ability to influence it for a while. Only through Turkey, it seems to me, will we have a great deal of influence in some of the southern regions immediately.

[Bezrukhov] (?Yes, till days ago), I think that Washington can influence developments inside republics. Well, they now all, I mean all former fifteen Soviet republics, in all these republics people talk about national pride, about independence, about everything, while at the same time keeping a watchful eye on Washington, because if only they can solve their problems (?as per now) their economic problems, they can do it with the help of the West. And Washington holds the key to (?visit) economic institutions around the world. So, if you want to secure at least some degree of support, economic assistance from the West, you have to behave nicely and Washington has a word here.

[Sanders] Well, behaving nicely, I think that's right. It's perhaps what you don't do rather than what you do. But it seems that America can't even solve the national pride issues of one of its own little nationality groups, the blacks who live in Los Angeles. How are they going to solve the Chechen problem, how are they going to solve the Ossetian problem, how are going to deal with the Fergana valley? I mean, I think even those words are unknown to our American listeners.

[Tkachenko] So what is behaving nicely in the economic sense? How much should Yeltsin be doing, and what in, in less basic terms to continue to enjoy, as he does at the moment, the general, the wide support, political support of Western leaders, Mikhail?

[Bezrukhov] [with additional indistinct comment by Tkachenko] To [word indistinct] well, personally I'm very troubled what is now happening with the Gaydar team. I mean people all talk in Moscow that these people are somehow replaced by other guys who are much closer to the former world of Soviet economics. Well, they say that some of the plans of Gaydar's team are too excessive and are not acceptable. I think the guys who criticize the Gaydar government and who think about replacing them with what we call here a corps of directors, former Soviet directors, economic directors, well I think these people do not understand that they can encounter much greater risks if they go along this road, because what I like about the Gaydar scheme is that they have a philosophy, a clear cut strategy, and they have a team. And they have managed to convince the population that population (?does not) have to expect too much from its government and that it is to go through a period of suffering because no one can guarantee a swift and smooth transition of Russia from the communist past to its, well, bright capitalist future. So if there are some guys who say that, why not give some degree of [words indistinct] well, why not to pour additional portions of money, well why not help in some of the enterprises [words indistinct]. I think they encounter the, well, they risk to come across a much greater risk, because in this case [word indistinct] disappears because initially in general people were prepared for suffering.

[Tkachenko] Be tough and stick with Gaydar, is that the best option for Mr. Yeltsin?

[Bezrukhov] Well I think he should support Gaydar's team. I think he will be forced to support Gaydar's team because Gaydar's team says something the world can understand. And Russia needs the help of the world. I mean, all these former directors of huge enterprises of the Soviet Union who now want to take the upper hand in the Russian Government, probably they do not understand that what they can offer is not acceptable to the world community. I mean, there is no reason of supporting former directors and their government in Russia. I mean, if you want to invest somewhere, why not go to Mexico where you have the booming economy.

[Sanders] Well, the economic theories that are being proposed by Gaydar are basically the softened and watered down theories of American Harvard developmental economist Jeffrey Sachs, and in that way they're somewhat understandable. The idea of going to private enterprise and individual initiative is understandable but no American and no Russian understands how you get from a neo-Stalinist system to a neo-capitalist system—it's never been done on such wide scale and this is all experimentation. While I have a lot of differences with the pain and some of the ways that reform's been brought about economically, it seems to me that part of it is to be shouldered by Mikhail Gorbachev and his inability to do many things and to listen to people like Pavlov, his economics minister, for a long time. And I think that what the Gaydar team needs to do is to follow in the footsteps of Yeltsin who got to be president by promising to be a bold reformer. And they have to push on with privatization of agriculture, which has been bogged down. Only two percent of land has been privatized. They have to do things with privatization of industry and let firms go bankrupt. This solving problems by printing money, an old Pavlov scheme, is going to just create more inflation. There's not going to be an easy answer. Americans are a Polaroid society—they like to see instant developments. Russians would like to see instant developments which have become prosperous. They don't care about the economic system. They would like to have all the things that Americans have in K-Mart and not worry about how you get from here to there. I don't think anyone can do that. And I think there's more pain coming. I don't think we're going to see riots in the streets, at least not till maybe the winter of '93.

[Tkachenko] Thank you very much indeed. Looking at the upcoming visit to Washington by the Russian President, Boris Yeltsin, here with me at the studios of Radio Moscow were Mr. Jonathon Sanders, a CBS correspondent here in Moscow, Mikhail Bezrukov, a political analyst from the U.S. and Canada Studies Institute also here in Moscow. From me, Irina Tkachenko, goodbye and good listening.

Mutual 'Compromises' Emphasized

LD1306173192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1145 GMT 11 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Rostislav Gertsev and Sergey Staroselskiy]

[Text] Moscow, 11 June—The main purpose of the first state visit by Boris Yeltsin, the president of Russia, to the United States and Canada is to confirm the level of understanding which is being formed between our countries today and Russia's readiness for further mutually beneficial cooperation with the North American states. This was stated by Iosif Podrazhanets, director of the North America Department of the ministry, at a briefing at the press center at the Russian Foreign Ministry today.

It is important that during the visit, Boris Yeltsin will be given an opportunity to have contacts with not just the leadership, but also with the peoples of these countries, in particular, by way of speaking in the U.S. Congress and the Canadian Parliament, Iosif Podrazhanets noted. The president will talk about the fact that Russia no longer presents any threat, as it did in former times, and that it is striving for cooperation, friendly relations and partnership with the United States and Canada.

During the visit to North America, Boris Yeltsin will hold talks with the leaders of the United States and Canada; a number of political treaties and agreements of a trade and economic nature are planned to be signed and joint statements are planned to be published. In particular, a charter on Russo-American partnership and friendship will be signed in the United States, and a political treaty will be signed in Canada.

Replying to questions from journalists, Iosif Podrazhanets noted that in the view of the Russian diplomatic service, a desire to develop bilateral relations and cooperation in resolving international problems also exists on the American side. The MID representative has confirmed that for the moment, no way has been found of untangling the problems associated with the issues of the further reduction of nuclear arsenals. However, he has emphasized, that the talks process is the search for mutually acceptable compromises. The director of the North American Department has, in this connection, not ruled out the possibility of one more meeting between the heads of the two countries' foreign policy departments before the start of Boris Yeltsin's visit to the United States.

Regarding the Russian president's initiative on establishing a global defense system, Iosif Podrazhanets has reported that a special document is being prepared on this issue. During the Russo-American summit meeting, it is planned that more than fifteen joint documents will be signed, many of which lie in the economic sphere.

Trade Minister Previews Visit

LD1306195392 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2146 GMT 11 Jun 92

[By BIZNES-TASS correspondent Pavel Karikov]

[Text] Moscow, 11 Jun— A number of bilateral trade and economic agreements in various fields, including agreements on the protection of capital investments and on taxation, will be signed during the Russian president's visit to the United States. A BIZNES-TASS correspondent was told this today by Russian Foreign Economic Relations Minister Petr Aven. He voiced the hope that this "will definitely give a new boost to bilateral trade and economic relations."

The fundamental document regulating trade relations between Russia and the United States remains the trade and economic agreement signed "back in President Gorbachev's day," which is currently in the process of ratification by the Russian Supreme Soviet. Hearings have already been held in the Supreme Soviet's committees and commissions, and "it will probably be put to the Supreme Soviet's Presidium again tomorrow."

"The Supreme Soviet is approaching the ratification of this agreement very seriously, but it is hard to say whether the Supreme Soviet will manage to ratify it before the start of the visit. I do not think there will be any fundamental objections there," Petr Aven said.

There are a number of specific economic issues which the two sides will try to settle during Boris Yeltsin's state visit to the United States. This applies primarily to two major problems: Russian access to the U.S. market and export and import controls. "Russia still faces restrictions. They are still not too keen to admit us to certain U.S. commodity markets," Russia's minister of foreign economic relations says. For example, Russia recently lost an anti-dumping case in the U.S. and had a 116 percent anti-dumping duty levied on the export of Russian uranium to the U.S. Russia accounts for almost 40 percent of world uranium production, although its share of world trade in this raw material does not exceed eight percent. Similar measures could be taken in respect of the export of Russian ferro-silicon and aluminium.

The second problem is export and import controls. This applies above all, to restrictions on the export of power-intensive and high-tech output, both in bilateral relations and through the Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls. Russia has had restrictions on fibre optics eased, but serious restrictions remain on the export of aerospace and atomic output. "We have a number of commercial propositions from U.S. firms to launch space satellites on our rockets, but the U.S. will not allow us to do this because of the export controls, and Russia is losing many millions of dollars," Petr Aven noted. He added that Russia today "is not the communist power against which those restrictions were introduced."

Besides strategic economic agreements, it is expected that a large number of purely commercial deals in such fields as oil and gas, petroleum refining, aircraft construction, and agriculture will be signed during Boris Yeltsin's visit to the United States.

Petr Aven also reported that a program for reforming the mechanism regulating foreign economic activity has been drawn up at the Russian Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations. It is currently in the hands of the Russian Federation Government. It is proposed to introduce a new package of normative documents governing foreign economic activity from 1 July.

Weapons Agreement Expected

LD1406215992 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1900 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Text] The United States will render assistance to Russia in ensuring security in the transportation, storage, and elimination of nuclear, chemical, and other weapons. According to the Russian Information Agency, it is expected that interstate agreements will be signed on these issues by Boris Yeltsin and George Bush on 17 June in Washington. [Radio Rossii in Russian at 0300 GMT on 15 June in a similar report adds: "RIA has learned from informed sources that the sides have managed to agree the main parameters for anticipated deep reductions over the entire range of nuclear arsenals. The Russian side has forwarded a draft agreement to Washington."] The U.S. Congress earlier decided to allocate $400 million to this end. In addition to this, three agreements have been prepared between the Russian Federation's Ministry of Atomic Energy and the U.S. Department of Defense. There is a possibility that an agreement on cooperation in the elimination of chemical weapons could be prepared during the visit. During Boris Yeltsin's visit to Washington, Russia and the United States intend to remove a number of impediments to the work of representatives of both countries which were created during the Cold War period. We remind you that Boris Yeltsin's first visit across the ocean as head of state begins on 15 June.

Nuclear Tests Document Sighted

LD1506061392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0606 GMT 15 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Solntsev; "U.S. To Continue Nuclear Tests"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Tokyo June 15 TASS—The United States will continue nuclear tests and it is unlikely that an agreement on their suspension will be reached at the Russian-American summit that begins on Tuesday [16 June], Stephen Hanmer, U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency deputy director, told KYODO TSUSHIN in Hiroshima on Monday [15 June]. Hanmer arrived in this Japanese city today to attend the U.N. Conference on Disarmament.

Russian President Boris Yeltsin said in January this year that Russia favoured a ban on all nuclear tests and confirmed a one-year moratorium on nuclear explosions declared in October 1991. Shortly afterwards France also said it would suspend nuclear tests until the end of the year. Newspapers report that on the eve of Yeltsin's meeting with U.S. President George Bush the American Administration has drafted a document which allowed for the possibility of complete halt of nuclear tests by 1995.

Hanmer, however, made it clear that the proposed measure envisaged reducing the number of annual U.S. nuclear tests from six to three. He also said that such a cut was due to technical reasons rather than to limitations.

Trade Agreement To Go Into Effect

LD1506022892 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0000 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] Russian goods arriving on the U.S. market will be subject to minimum duty—a rate 10 times less than the previous one—from 17 June. This is the significance of the most-favored-trading-nation status which both countries intend to grant each other. This is envisaged in a trade relations agreement which RIA reports is expected to go into effect during Boris Yeltsin's U.S. visit. This agreement was concluded between the former USSR and the United States on 1 June 1990.

Space Defense Talks Viewed

LD1406092892 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1710 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Text] A global space defense system is expected to be a topic of discussion during a visit to the United States by the Russian President Boris Yeltsin on the 16th and 17th of this month. Our military affairs observer sends this report:

[Announcer] It was President Yeltsin who put forward the idea of creating a global system of defense for the world community. The system can be based on the technologies of the American Strategic Defense Initiatives—SDI—and on similar developments in Russia. The United States has backed the idea in principle, and advanced the following concrete proposals.

This should be an international project, a system of early warning information should be created and aid should be given to modernize or to acquire the system by the participants on the anti-missile defense system. It is expected that the pooling of technological efforts combined with appropriate elements of logistic support can put up a global defense against a limited missile attack for all countries, say in case of accidental or non-endorsed launches. The Russian Army General Headquarters is already dealing with all these issues. Here is the view of the Deputy Head of the Legal Treaty Board of the General Headquarters, Major-General Vladimir Kuklev. The General noted two points:

[Kuklev] First, the anti-missile defense and all our actions to reduce strategic arms and advance this initiative on a global space defense system are all part of a chain of measures to promote stability. Secondly, this is a political statement so far, which requires a detailed discussion with other countries. We believe that the system will strengthen strategic stability, said General Kuklev.

Further on Space Collaboration

LD1406095692 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0628 GMT 14 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Sorokin]

[Text] Moscow June 14 TASS—It is time space-faring nations discontinue parallel research and move from confrontation to cooperation, russian experts believe. A joint implementation of mutually complementary projects will make it possible to save huge material and intellectual resources and effectively achieve results necessary for mankind, a spokesman at the Russian Foreign Ministry told ITAR-TASS on the eve of a regular session, opening in New York on Monday [15 June], of the U.N. Committee for the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

The discussion of ways and means to prevent space from being militarised will become a priority subject at the present, 35th, session of the committee, the spokesman said. Participants in the session will also consider the work of the science-and-technology and legal subcommittees and the side benefit from the development and operation of space technology.

The distinguishing feature of the session is that it is held in 1992 which has been designated the International Year of Space by a decision of the U.N. General Assembly. A special meeting at the session will be devoted to this occasion.

Discussion of POWs Expected

LD1506021992 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0100 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] At forthcoming talks in Washington, Boris Yeltsin and George Bush are expected to discuss the work of the bilateral Russian-U.S. commission set up on 26 March to investigate the fate of POWs and missing persons. Informed sources told RIA that the presidents of the two countries intend to review results of the initial stage of this bilateral commission's work. It is expected that the U.S. leadership will express a wish to continue rendering good services to facilitate the release and return of former Soviet POWs in Afghanistan.

West Views of Government Reshuffle Examined

LD1506024592 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1900 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Commentary by N. Svanidze; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Perhaps the patriarch's blessing will help Russian President Boris Yeltsin convince the West that his new government appointments will not reflect on the rate of economic reform. Meanwhile, the West cannot fail to notice that Yeltsin has traded in Gaydar's team, leaving Gaydar as a counterweight to the conservatives and as a lure to get financial aid. It is also difficult to ignore the confusion that has struck the democratic camp. With the weakening of their personal influence on the president and the change in the government's composition, the democrats are left with no effective political levers. As a rule, the streets belong to the opposition in times of crisis. Sensing Yeltsin's hesitation and the weakness in democrat ranks, extremist, procommunist organizations have become more active. Finding support among the most deprived, and dredging up supporters from the lower depths of society, they have been picketing at Ostankino for three days now. The red calico flags and the anti-Semitic slogans have a single aim: to intimidate the authorities. Pressure from reactionaries and the democrats' passiveness go a long way to explain Yeltsin's desire to stabilize the country's situation through a conservative freezing of reform. However, the West, from which ready money is wanted, may not understand this.

Yeltsin Sends Letter on U.S. Aircraft Downings

LD1306205492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2024 GMT 13 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Fedyashin]

[Text] Washington June 13 TASS—Several U.S. planes were shot down in the airspace of the Soviet Union in the 1950's and eight members of their crews were put in Soviet prisons or camps and another four were kept in psychiatric clinics, Russian President Boris Yeltsin admitted in a personal letter to two U.S. Senators, the Associated Press reports. [Russian TV in Russian at 1600 GMT on 13 June in a similar report adds that the letter stated that: "nine U.S. planes were brought down over the USSR territory at the beginning of the 1950's and that at least 20 U.S. citizens who survived were put into closed psychiatric clinics. He [Yeltsin] promised to supply the details during his visit to Washington."]

The letter was delivered to Democrat John Kerry, U.S. Senator (Massachusetts) and chairman of the Senate Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs, and Republican Bob Smith, U.S. Senator (New Hampshire) and committee vice-chairman, last Friday [12 June] by General Dmitriy Volkogonov, who arrived in Washington within the framework of preparations for the upcoming visit of the Russian president.

Although the complete content of the letter is not disclosed, judging by the reports, Boris Yeltsin informed the senators on the fact the Soviet archive documents show the Powers spy craft shot down by the Soviet Air Defence in 1960 was not the only U.S. plane whose flight was stopped.

It has been revealed nine U.S. planes were shot down in the skies of the Soviet Union in the 1950's, says the letter.

Archive materials show "as of August 1, 1953, eight Americans were held in Soviet prisons and prison camps and four others were held in special psychiatric clinics. Their history is being investigated," wrote Yeltsin.

The letter says 59 U.S. servicemen were interrogated in the Soviet Union during the Korean War. President George Bush told today's news conference in Rio de Janeiro he asked a question related to the issue to ex-Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. Gorbachev refuted the information. Bush said he believes the information of Mr. Yeltsin is true and it is fine he made it public.

During the Second World War years the crews of American bombers shot down in the skies of Russia and Eastern Europe were held for a year or more in the Soviet Union, says the letter.

The Russian president also noted several American deserters were clandestinely moved from Japan to the Soviet Union in the Vietnam war years. However, he said they stayed in the Soviet Union for a very short time and later left for various European states.

A U.S. Defence Department spokesman said in Washington the Department recognized all facts of plane losses shot down in the Soviet skies in the 1950's and these facts were made public. However, he said they did not know anything about the survivors.

For several years the State Department made inquiries to the Soviet government and it answered there were no survivors.

The letter of the Russian president was received in the U.S. With gratitude as evidence of openness and willingness to help in the solution of the missing Americans problem.

Senator Kerry said the U.S. Government should produce all information it has on these cases with the same openness and frankness.

According to the information of The Morning News Tribune newspaper published in Tacoma, Washington, a U.S. Navy plane was shot down above the Baltic Sea in the Soviet airspace on April 8, 1950. A total of seven American reconnaissance planes and bombers were shot down above the Sea of Japan between November, 1951, and September, 1956.

The latest incidents took place on June 27, 1958, and September 2, 1968, when two American planes were shot down in the Armenian skies.

Yeltsin To Visit Construction Sites

OW1106222692 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1831 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On the eve of his visit to the US on June 12 the Russian President Boris Yeltsin intends to visit construction sites of the Russian-American joint venture "Perestroika" in Moscow, "IF" [INTERFAX] reports.

At 13.00 [0900 GMT] Boris Yeltsin is expected to begin his acquaintance with the construction process of low-rise residential buildings of "Setun" complex in the south-western part of Moscow. "Perestroika" told "IF" that the complex will be put into operation in November (by now 35% of the apartments have already been reserved). For the time being only one 4-apartment unit is completely ready, and it will apparently be visited by the Russian President.

Yeltsin is expected to go to Yuzhinskiy by-street where "Perestroika" has already put into operation an office center consisting of 6 buildings styled like old Moscow but equipped according to the world standards.

In his interview with "IF" the deputy of the general director of "Perestroika" Konstantin Gusakov said that as before the western capital eagerly invests its money into real estate (renting of one square meter in "Setun" constitutes $500 a year and in Yuzhinskiy by-street—$800 a year).

"Perestroika" has invested 49 million dollars for the construction of these buildings.

Yeltsin Talks With Shevardnadze on Ossetia

LD1406012392 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0000 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Text] RIKA reports that Boris Yeltsin held a telephone conversation with Eduard Shevardnadze in which he expressed his readiness to participate in Georgian-Ossetian talks on settling the South Ossetian problem. The two heads of state also discussed Russo-Georgian relations and preparations for bilateral, interstate treaties.

Delegation Blames Georgia for Ossetian Conflict

OW1406155992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1545 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] After visiting South Ossetia a delegation of political parties entering the bloc "New Russia" laid the blame for continuing bloodshed in Tskhinval on Georgia. The delegation returned to Moscow Sunday [14 June]. In an interview with IF [INTERFAX], head of the delegation, chairman of the Russian Social Liberal Party Vladimir Filin said that "the Georgian side is deliberately and virtually with impunity annihilating the population of Tskhinval". The living blocs of the city are under heavy fire.

The cease-fire agreement signed by Georgia and South Ossetia in Kazbegi June 10 is violated by the Georgian side, the delegation claims.

Filin said that on June 12 an attempt was made to take over part of the city. The delegation tried to contact Eduard Shevardnadze, but met with a refusal from Tbilisi.

The delegation concluded that until a political solution only Russian troops stationed in South Ossetia can guarantee the cease fire.

The delegation intends to issue an official statement at a session of the Russian parliament, submit its conclusions to President Yeltsin and hold a press conference in Moscow June 16.

According to the latest reports, on Saturday [13 June] 21 people were killed in Tskhinval. The number of those wounded has not yet been determined.

IF's correspondent who was in Tskhinval the day before confirms that the city is under continuous fire. One mortar shell fragment fell near our correspondent. The region where he spent a day and a half lacks drinking water.

Military Dependents Evacuated From Tskhinvali

LD1306182992 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1600 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Tex] According to IPRINDA, all families of servicemen from combat engineer and helicopter regiments stationed in Tskhinvali have been evacuated from the Tskhinvali conflict zone.

Evacuation Continues

LD1406021192 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0100 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Text] The Transcaucasus Military District press center reports that the evacuation of the families of Russian Army officers and warrant officers from Tskhinvali continues. NEGA reports that the evacuation is due to be completed by 22 June. Latest reports on the Russian servicemen's families indicate that 25 women and 12 children remain in Tskhinvali.

'Last' Military Specialists To Depart Libya

LD1406102092 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0700 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Text] The last Russian military specialist from among those working under contract will leave Libya on 15 June. Civilian specialists who were sent there by the Aviation Export firm to work on servicing aviation technology will leave on the same flight.

The Russian Embassy in Tripoli told an RIA correspondent that the evacuation of specialists is proceeding according to the schedule agreed upon with Libyan authorities. While the Tripoli authorities at first placed obstacles in the way of the specialists' departure, the situation has recently stabilized, the Russian mission said. Some of the specialists leaving Libya plan to return under private contract after submitting their resignations, the agency notes.

Ministry Protests Moldovan 'Illegal Actions'

LD1306152192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1400 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] Moscow, 13 Jun—The Russian Foreign Affairs Ministry has resolutely protested the "illegal actions by the Moldovan side toward the border detachment stationed in Chisinau." This is stated in a Russian Foreign Ministry note published today. It notes that the Russian Foreign Ministry is insisting on the Moldovan authorities undertaking immediate measures to lift the blockade of the border detachment and ensure the safety of its personnel. The Russian Foreign Ministry, the note says, calls on the Moldovan side to "resolve the issues of creating its own border troops through civilized methods and through talks."

'Deep Concern' Expressed Over Nagorno-Karabakh

LD1406174392 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1617 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Text] Moscow, 14 Jun—The Russian Federation's Foreign Ministry has expressed deep concern in connection with the new escalation of hostilities in Nagorno-Karabakh, insistently urging the warring sides to move onto the path of negotiation.

"What we are seeing is a new escalation of the conflict, which has already led to numerous deaths and destruction, and the threat of sliding toward full-scale war," says a statement by the Russian Foreign Policy Department circulated here today. "It is all the more regrettable that this is happening at a moment when the international community is making urgent efforts to foster a political settlement in the region."

"Russia consistently advocates an immediate end to the bloodshed in Karabakh," the statement stresses. "The sides know Russia's constructive proposals. While taking an active part in the peacemaking efforts of the CSCE and the United Nations and in preparing the CSCE conference in Minsk on Nagorno-Karabakh, we expect that those involved in the conflict will make maximum use of the possibilities for a settlement that have been opened by the preliminary extraordinary meeting in Rome of the member-states of the conference."

"It is completely clear that the Karabakh conflict cannot be solved militarily," the Russian Foreign Ministry notes in conclusion. "Even if one of the sides gets the upper hand, the other will in turn try to achieve the same. The sooner those involved in the conflict abandon the illusion of resolving it by strong-arm tactics, the sooner a just political settlement will begin to be found."

Military Agreement Signed With Kyrgyzstan

LD1406013792 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0000 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Text] Russian and Kyrgyz military representatives in Moscow signed an agreement on exchanging personnel, information, and arms. NEGA reports that the numerical strength of troops stationed in Kyrgyzstan will be at least halved.

Russian, Ukrainian Leaders Postpone Summit

LD1406030792 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0230 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Text] The presidents, heads of parliament, and heads of government of Russia and Ukraine will meet in Dagomys before the end of June, Boris Yeltsin reports. This meeting was moved from the first half of June to a later date because the parliamentary chairmen of Russia and Ukraine are away on foreign business. The Russian president sets off for a visit to the United States and Canada on 15 June. Boris Yeltsin said that the Russo-Ukrainian summit will definitely take place after this visit.

Ukraine Accused of Violating Agreements

LD1206225892 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1600 GMT 11 Jun 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] General Maksimov, head of the strategic forces of Russia, stated that Ukraine's attempts to seize control of strategic aviation is a direct violation of the Alma-Ata and Minsk agreements. It is a question of Kravchuk's decrees on including the strategic aviation, that which is on Ukrainian territory, in the make-up of the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

Ukrainian Debts May Be Met Through Pipeline

LD1406091192 Moscow POSTFACTUM in English 1414 GMT 13 Jun 92

[From the "Politics" section]

[Text] Moscow—Certain sources indicate that the Russian Government has agreed to pay Ukraine 100 million rubles and 5.4 million U.S. dollars in debts for using the Druzhba (friendship) oil pipe-line. Some sources put the figure of Russian oil pumped through this pipe-line to western Europe in 1991 alone at 15 million tonnes. Well informed sources, close to the Ukrainian cabinet, say Ukraine will insist on increasing the size of its oil duties, by using the internationally accepted legal form of compensation of possible losses.

Further on Rutskoy's Latin America Meetings

Meets Russian Immigrants

LD1406213192 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1500 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Text] Russia invites its compatriots and opens doors for them, Russian Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy stated at a meeting with Russian-speaking immigrants in Buenos Aires. He suggested that they buy property and make investments in Russia.

Here is another curious piece of information from the vice president's mouth: Russians will have a new passport as early as September. The symbols of communist ideology—the hammer and sickle—will not be found in it.

Holds Talks With Argentina's Menem

LD1406214292 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2243 GMT 11 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Alekseyev]

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Jun—The three-day visit to Argentina by Russian Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy has ended. He had talks with Argentine President Carlos Menem, spoke at the republican National Congress, met with local businessmen, and studied the work of agro-industrial enterprises in the province of Cordoba.

The main result of the talks with President Menem was an agreement to set up a joint working group at government and parliament level to prepare for an all-embracing treaty on cooperation and partnership to be signed by the leaders of the two countries. The head of the Argentinian state demonstrated the political will of his country's leadership to cooperate with Russia in all spheres, particularly in developing trade and economic relations.

During his meetings with Economy Minister D. Cavallo and with businessmen, various projects were discussed. The implementation of these projects would enable Russian-Argentinian trade turnover to be increased several times over. The legislative bodies of the two countries and the large community of emigres from Russia living in Argentina are also called upon to play an important part in expanding cooperation.

During his visit to South America, the Russian Federation's vice president also visited Venezuela, where he had meetings at summit level.

On Thursday [11 June], A. Rutskoy left for Rio de Janeiro to represent Russia at the UN conference on the environment and development.

Comments on Environmental Summit

LD1406083992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0750 GMT 14 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent Andrey Kurguzov]

[Text] Rio de Janeiro June 14 TASS—The holding of the U.N. Conference on the Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro is so timely that it would be senseless [as received] in 10-15 years' time, Vice-President Aleksandr Rutskoy of the Russian Federation told ITAR-TASS.

The forum in Rio de Janeiro has proved that it is essential for mankind to proceed ahead, taking into account the exhaustive analysis of the alarming ecological situation, Rutskoy said.

"Environmental pollution makes it incumbent upon us to take urgent measures to monitor the ecological situation, right up to criminal liability. However, with this end in view, monitoring mechanisms and sanctions for breaches of nature conservation standards should be worked out.

"It is essential to fully revise the legislative basis and the Russian law on environmental protection, and to make provision for a financial backing so that the documents that we have signed would not remain mere declarations," Rutskoy said.

Touching upon the stand of some states of the former Soviet Union at the forum in Rio de Janeiro, Rutskoy emphasised the need for the pursuance of a tougher policy with regard to the ex-Soviet republics which now accuse Russia of the deterioration of their national ecological situation by pleading the presence of CIS Army units on their territories.

Such statements run counter to reality, since these countries have been developing to the detriment of Russia's well-being, the Russian vice-president emphasised.

Meets Venezuelan Leaders

LD1506092292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0814 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] Moscow June 15 ITAR-TASS—Russian Vice Premier Aleksandr Rutskoy has returned to Moscow after a 12-day tour of Latin American countries. He also paid official visits to Venezuela and Argentina and took part in the U.N. sponsored environment and development conference in Rio de Janeiro.

According to Rutskoy, Venezuela and Argentina were singled out as the leading countries of the Latin-American continent with which Russia intends to cooperate in the petroleum and agricultural fields.

Rutskoy's talks with the Venezuelan leadership focused on ways and forms of making oil extraction and processing more effective and expanding economic cooperation between the two countries.

Rutskoy accepted President Carlos Andres Perez's proposal to send a large group of Russian oilmen to that country for on-the-job training.

In Buenos Aires, the Russian and Argentine officials agreed to set up a joint working group to prepare a comprehensive treaty on partnership and cooperation to be signed by the top leaders of the two countries. During his meetings with government members and representatives of the country's business community, Rutskoy discussed projects the realization of which would increase Russo-Argentine trade turnover several times.

During his stay in Rio de Janeiro, Rutskoy met other participants in the Earth Summit—the closing stage of the world ecological conference. The Russian vice president was received by President Fernando Collor of Brazil and had conversations with the leaders of Bulgaria, Sweden, Germany and Britain.

Khasbulatov Ends Visit to Saudi Arabia

LD1206205992 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1240 GMT 12 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Viktor Lebedev]

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 12 Jun (TASS)—Ruslan Khasbulatov, chairman of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet, met with King Fahd Bin- 'Abd-al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia and Crown Prince Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al- 'Aziz today in the Mina Palace in Mecca.

A friendly conversation took place. The speaker of the Russian parliament informed the top Saudi leaders about the progress of reforms in Russia and the peaceful foreign policy of the Russian state. He confirmed an aspiration to expand and develop comprehensive cooperation between the Russian Federation and Saudi Arabia.

King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, for his part, came out in favor of strengthening relations between the two countries and expressed interest in the state of affairs in Russia and in its foreign policy. Questions of mutual interest were discussed.

At the end of the official summit [as received] meeting the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet delegation headed by Ruslan Khasbulatov left for home, having finished a six-day visit to the kingdom.

During their stay in Jeddah, the Russian parliamentarians held several business meetings with commercial and industrial circles of the country. According to information received by the ITAR-TASS correspondent from members of the delegation, conversations between the deputies of the Russian parliament with local officials, businessmen, and heads of major financial institutions were fruitful. They confirmed that there is noticeable interest in Saudi Arabia in increasing economic links with Russia. Business representatives from the country's important financial and industrial centers are studying the possibilities of buying goods in Russia and are examining projects to invest capital in its economy.

Status of Troops Returning from Germany Noted

LD1406174492 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1902 GMT 11 Jun 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] This year 30 percent of the personnel and equipment of the Western Group of troops are to return to Russia. Almost 34,000 tanks and armored personnel carriers, motor vehicles, and 750,000 tonnes of so called logistic and technical support will be transported back by sea.

The main problem is housing. Last year 15,000 officers and warrant officers left Germany without housing to go to. To this number we should add another 20,000 for their families. The 7,800 million marks allocated by the German Government to build housing for them is still not being used. The leaders of the military departments of Russia, Ukraine, and Byelarus are still not able to agree on sharing this money fairly.

Yeltsin To Attend Black Sea Nations Summit

LD1406035492 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0300 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Text] Boris Yeltsin will attend a meeting of Black Sea basin countries' heads of state and government in Istanbul on 25 June. A Black Sea economic cooperation declaration is expected to be signed.

Burbulis, Finnish Industrialists on Relations

LD1306200292 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1845 GMT 11 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Sergey Skripnikov]

[Summary] Moscow, 11 Jun—Burbulis today received at the Kremlin a delegation of Finnish industrialists. He said the meeting confirmed the government's and Yeltsin's strong interest in cooperation with Finland. The Finns said that before Yeltsin's visit to their country, they wanted to "find out how relations with Russia stand, and not only to find out, but to be, ourselves, active and constructive." Unsolved problems included debts to Finnish firms and the suspension of a number of projects in which Finnish capital has been invested. Finland was waiting to see "when the payment system will start operating again, and guarantees and deliveries will be renewed." Barter between enterprises was a possibility.

Burbulis described what is being done to solve the problems. "Realization of old agreements would appreciably change the general climate of bilateral links." Russia appreciated Finnish patience and understood the present difficulties.

However, the sides said they had substantial talks on agreements in the sphere of trade, investment, and cooperation between "adjacent regions." They also discussed energy saving in Russia and utilization of natural gas and oil in northern Europe. The Finns said three mutually advantageous Finnish-Russian agreements could come into effect as early as July.

Federation Affairs

Gaydar Appointed 'Acting Chairman' of Government

LD1506090992 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0900 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] Today, Yegor Gaydar has been appointed acting chairman of the Government of the Russian Federation by a decree of Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

Shakhray Dismissed from State Counsellor Post

LD1506092992 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0915 GMT 15 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Podyapolskiy]

[Text] Moscow, 15 Jun—President of Russia Boris Yeltsin today signed a decree relieving Sergey Shakhray of his duties as state counsellor of the Russian Federation, ITAR-TASS has been informed by Shakhray's press secretary.

Shokhin To Continue as Vice Premier

LD1506100492 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0900 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] Aleksandr Shokhin, who was removed on Sunday [14 June] from the post of minister of labor and employment of Russia by presidential decree, has announced that he will continue to work in the post of vice premier. The INTERFAX agency reported this on Monday. It is noted in the report that at the end of May, Shokhin, as vice premier, was instructed to deal with matters of external economic ties. According to Shokhin, it is very difficult to combine this activity with the work of minister of labor and employment.

Yeltsin Holds Talks With Moscow Patriarch

LD1406135392 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1155 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Text] Moscow, 14 Jun (ITAR-TASS)—Today, on the feast of the Holy Trinity, Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin visited the Troitsa-Sergiyev Monastery in Sergiyev Posad (central Russia), where in the presence of Aleksiy II, patriarch of Moscow and all Russia, he heard vespers on the occasion of the feast. The solemn liturgy was held in the monastery's Troitskiy Cathedral.

As the Russian Federation president's press service reported after the end of the service, Aleksiy II, patriarch of Moscow and all Russia, and President Yeltsin held a personal conversation on questions of purifying and reviving Russia, the unity and peace of the Russian state, problems of national and state morality, and the development of relations with the church.

The Russian president congratulated the patriarch of Moscow and all Russia on the second anniversary of his enthronement and expressed the universal gratitude to him for the role of the Russian Orthodox Church and its personal participation in reviving culture and the people's spirituality, achieving the unity of the country, and maintaining civil peace in the Republic.

Aleksiy II, patriarch of Moscow and all Russia, blessed the Russian president in his work for the good of the fatherland and wished him success in his coming state visit to the United States.

The president's family was also present at the service in the Troitsa-Sergiyev Monastery.

His Holiness and the Russian president appeared on the balcony of the patriarch's rooms, from which Boris Yeltsin spoke to the many pilgrims who had gathered in the monastery square. His Holiness Patriarch Aleksiy II blessed the people.

Addresses Crowd at Cathedral

LD1406172592 Moscow Programma Radio Odin Network in Russian 1500 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Text] The Russian Orthodox Church celebrates one of its most important holidays today. Thousands of people went on a pilgrimage to Troitsa Sergiyeva Monastery today, and numerous guests from foreign parishes came as well. In the morning, a holy Mass was conducted by Aleksiy II, patriarch of all Russia. Russian President Boris Yeltsin also took part in the celebrations. After the Mass, Aleksiy II and the Russian president addressed the crowd gathered by the Troitskiy Cathedral. Here is a recording made by our special correspondent:

[Begin recording] [Aleksiy II] Dear brothers and sisters, I congratulate you on this Holy Trinity holiday.

[Crowd] God save us.

[Aleksiy II] Today I wish you all happiness, peace, more love, goodness, and truth.

[Crowd] Thank you, thank you.

[Aleksiy II] Let the Holy Spirit guard you through all your life.

[Yeltsin] I congratulate you all on the holy day of the Holy Trinity, which we are celebrating together today with the holy Mass conducted by Aleksiy II, patriarch of all Russia. Two years ago he was chosen to be the leader of the Russian state church.

Today we need God's help. We need it to follow this difficult and arduous path. Yes, times are tough for the Russian people. Despite all that, this year we have managed to a considerable extent to unite peoples and to avoid bloodshed in Russia. I am convinced that in the future we will not allow it either. This is the most important thing.

Tomorrow I am going to the United States. I think that my signature and that of the U.S. President will be the final act ensuring that we will never be enemies again. We will never be adversaries again. We will eliminate nuclear weapons altogether. It means that, together, we will sign a cooperation accord the likes of which has never been signed by two superpowers.

I hope that, thanks to the blessing that I received today, this trip will be concluded successfully. Yes, we have difficulties, but we must follow this difficult path. We must follow this path in order to live better in the future; I am convinced of that. By the end of the year, our lives will be better. Not right away, but gradually. Our lives will not get any worse but will get better, I am convinced of that.

From the bottom of my heart I congratulate you on this great holiday and I appeal to you to be patient this year and to be humble. I appeal to you to purify yourselves. I came here to purify myself before such a long journey, before all the difficulties that await all of us and myself as president. [end recording]

Comments on Retirement

LD1406112292 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1033 GMT 14 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Anna Grigoryeva and Sergey Podyapolskiy]

[Text] Sergiyev Posad, 14 Jun—Russian President Boris Yeltsin, speaking to people gathered after the end of the festive liturgy in Troitskiy Cathedral on one of the main feast days of the Russian Orthodox Church—Trinity Sunday—has called on Russians to have patience, humility, and purification. "I came here today to be cleansed before the long road," Boris Yeltsin said, speaking about his coming visit to the United States, during which he hopes to sign a charter on partnership and friendship with the U.S. President.

"I hope," the president said, "that having received a blessing today I will complete this trip successfully." Replying to appeals not to retire, Boris Yeltsin stressed that he does not intend to. "The only one who can send me into retirement is the Lord God," the Russian president stated.

Yeltsin Decree Issued on Land Sales

LD1506102192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0929 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] Moscow, 15 June (ITAR-TASS)—A decree from the Russian president issued on Sunday [14 June] sets out the procedure for the sale of plots of land as state- and municipal-owned enterprises become privatized or expansion or additional construction works are undertaken, and of plots made available to individual citizens or associations of citizens for commercial activity. The document prohibits the sale of:

Common land in populated areas; wildlife reserves, sites of natural interest, national parks and forests, and botanical gardens; health resorts and sites of historical and cultural value; agricultural land and land used for exploitation and protection of underground resources; land contaminated by hazardous or biogenetic substances; plots of land in temporary use.

The procedure for exploitation of underground resources on privatization of land is to be defined in compliance with the Law of the Russian Federation on Underground Resources.

According to the decree, 80 percent of the revenues from land sales will go the budgets of the local Soviet of People's Deputies within whose area the land is located; 10 percent will go to the Russian Federation constituent republics, krays, oblasts, autonomous oblasts, autonomous okrugs, Moscow, and St. Petersburg; and 10 percent to the Russian Federation.

Border Troops Established Under Decree

LD1306151892 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1350 GMT 13 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow, 13 Jun—The president of Russia issued a decree "On the Formation of the Border Troops of the Russian Federation" on 12 June, with the purpose of creating a unified security system and guarding the state border and maritime economic zone of the Russian Federation. Under this document, the republic's border troops are formed within the Ministry of Security of the Russian Federation and made up of the personnel of the Committee for Defense of the State Border and the troops subordinate to it. The commander of the border troops is simultaneously a deputy security minister of Russia. The decree lays down that the border troops of the Russian Federation should be guided in their activities by international treaties, agreements on border issues made by the member states of the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Constitution of the Russian Federation, the laws of the Russian Federation, and legal acts of the former USSR where they do not contradict Russian Federation legislation.

Limitations on Cash Circulation Released

LD1406132592 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1244 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Text] Moscow June 14 TASS—Follows the text of a decree issued today by President Boris Yeltsin of the Russian Federation on additional measures to limit cash circulation:

"Pending the normalisation of money circulation and the elimination of the shortage of cash, I hereby resolve as follows:

1. To establish that enterprises, organisations and institutions (including trading ones), irrespective of their organisational and legal form:

Should keep their funds in banking institutions,

Should make clearing transactions with other enterprises in a non-cash procedure through banking institutions,

May have a cash balance within the limits set by banking institutions upon an agreement with the directors of enterprises,

Should hand in all cash to the bank in excess of the established limits of cash balance under a procedure and within a time-limit coordinated with the banking institution,

Have the right to keep cash in excess of the established limits only for the remuneration of labour and for the payment of social insurance allowances, student grants, pensions and only for a period of not more than three work days, the day of the receipt of money from the banking institution inclusive.

2. To establish that enterprises, organisations and institutions (including trading ones), which have permanent receipts and spend them for the remuneration of labour and for other purposes (the payment of pensions, the purchase of farm products, the buying up of packaging materials and clothes [Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian on 15 June 1992 on page 2 publishes "Decree No. 622" and reads: "...packaging materials and articles [veshchi]..."] from the population), have no right to keep cash until the pay day.

3. The Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation, together with the republic's Ministry of Finance and the state taxation service, shall prepare and submit to parliament their proposals on the liability of the directors and chief accountants of enterprises, organisations and institutions for actions that run counter to points 1 and 2 of this decree.

4. To allow the Air Transport Department of the Transport Ministry of the Russian Federation to carry out the transportation of the personnel and freight of the Defence Ministry, the Interior Ministry, and the Ministry of Security in a non-cash procedure on the strength of waybills of an established form."

Vice Premiers Comment on Appointments, Structure

LD1406221892 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1715 GMT 14 Jun 92

[From the "Itogi" newscast]

[Excerpts] During the entire past week conversations held in political circles focused mainly on reshuffles and new appointments carried out by the Russian president in his government. Our special correspondent, Natalya Chernyshova, who reported during the week on the first meetings of the renewed and reorganized cabinet, interviewed the main characters: Yegor Gaydar and the newly appointed vice premiers. In her report prepared especially for the "Itogi" program she analyzes the arrangement of forces in the government and its future.

[Begin recording] [Chernyshova] [Passage omitted] Gaydar and Chubays claim that the new appointments were planned from the very beginning.

[Vice Premier Yegor Gaydar] The necessity of integrating representatives of infuential social groups, including those linked with industrial managers, into power structures was absolutely obvious, in my view.

[Vice Premier Anatoliy Chubays] In my view what was done should have been done during the second stage of reforms; namely, to reinforce the team with those people who possess real, practical experience.

[Chernyshova] Both Khizha and Shumeyko, wondering why the press described them as opponents to the market system, assure their adherence to the policy of reforms.

[Vice Premier Georgiy Khizha] All this talk is nonsense. I think that we need professional, vigorous people who are devoted to the course and who want to do things, you see. These people will be able to agree among themseleves. Neither their backgrounds nor their biographies matter here.

[Vice Premier Vladimir Shumeyko] I would not divide things into new and old. The team is the same as it used to be prior to Gaydar, and it is somewhat stronger now. All those who joined the government are very professional people. They are neither technocrats who are ensconsed in something, or economic managers trying to get hold of either nails or timber. [passage omitted]

[Shumeyko] We communicate on absolutely the same wavelengths; the wavelenghts, they may say, of a directors' corps.

[Chernyshova] Second, the institute of vice premiers, which has expanded so much, has, in essence, turned the government into a coalition government.

[Gaydar] Any expansion of the structure of the government's [word indistinct] at the same time presupposes that it would be more difficult to come to a concensus, an agreement, within the government itself. I hope that the changes that have taken place will not hinder consistently implementing the course toward reforms.

[Chernyshova] Third, it is impossible to have two first deputies. One can name as many of them as one likes, but in practice this is impossible. It seems that one of you must recognize the right of another to independence.

[Shumeyko] It is not quite independence. One of us should recognize the right to make a strategic decision. If you insist, let Gaydar be the first first and Shumeyko the first second, or the second first; let us put it this way. If there was talk today, for example, about appointing a premier, Gaydar must be the premier. This is absolutely clear.

[Chernyshova] This answer does credit to Vladimir Filippovich. But what will the reality be?

[Gaydar] I think that we will manage to agree on demarcation of our functions. I will be primarily responsible for forming the policy; Vladimir Filippovich will concentrate on current organizational work.

[Chernyshova] The operative management of the national economy is to be handed over to Vladimir Shumeyko. Some of his first steps will be to turn all state enterprises into joint-stock companies, let enterprises unite into holding companies, introduce restrictions on monopolists, and increase wages.

[Shumeyko] This is not a big bang privatization, not a sudden transition. It is a normal, creeping privatization in which commercial structures enter state property gradually. When this idea is fully implemented, there will be neither ministries nor ministers. The branches should die off. [end recording] [video shows street scenes, vice premiers interviewed in offices]

Protesters Picket TV Center; Demand Air Time

LD1206142492 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1100 GMT 12 Jun 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Protest actions are being held in Moscow. Political activity is clearly on the increase. Approximately one and a half hours ago, answering the appeal of the Working Russia [Trudovaya Rossiya] organization, the people rallying outside the Ostankino TV tower burst through a militia cordon and tried to block the TV center in Ostankino.

The workers at First Channel were accused of betraying the interests of the Russian people and calls were made to remove all Jews and non-Russians from television. The nature of the action contradicts the rally organizers' claims that it would be peaceful, which they made when they reached an agreement with the mayor's office to hold it.

There were attempts at the rally to formulate a constructive program to get out of the crisis and calls for a general political strike and for replacing the leaders of Russian and its constitutional system. Speakers demanded that they be given time on the First TV Channel.

The rally participants are still outside the Ostankino TV center building, the entrances of which are guarded by powerful forces from the militia. [video shows people chanting in the square, red flags with USSR symbols and Lenin, and a closeup of a placard with Popov's caricature on it saying "Rats are already leaving"]

[Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian at 1000 GMT on 12 June carries from the "Vesti" newscast a report by correspondent Yu. Yepiskopovaya which includes the following:

["The siege of the Ostankino TV center started yesterday with a rally organized by the infamous Pamyat society and the Russian Party. The slogans and speeches are the usual ones—'Revival of the Russian empire,' and 'Down with adherents of other beliefs.'

["There were not many people, but the demands were extremely serious: the broadcasting of a daily program called 'Russian Hour,' which would be edited by writers from the Russian patriots, and the reduction of jobs at the TV center to ensure a proportional representation of nationalities, so that the number of Russians, Jews, and other nationalities working at Ostankino corresponds proportionally to their numbers in the Russian Federation.

["Much was also said about the economy and the social situation in Russia. But everything boiled down to the same thing."]

Resolutions Passed

OW1206180692 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1530 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Friday [12 June] the participants of the meeting at the "Ostankino" TV company demanded resignation of the government. The organizers of the meeting—the movement "Working Russia"—say that "tens of thousands Muscovites, and delegations from Kostroma, Ryazan, Tver, Ivanovo, and other cities participated in this meeting of protest".

The demonstrators demanded "to stop robbery of the people caused by realizing the reforms and by giving an opportunity to the opposition to take part in TV programmes".

"The forces which are continuing the disorganization of the country", a Russian people's deputy Vladimir Isakov said at the meeting, "managed to pass a programme of privatization in the parliament. But I am sure that they will not manage to implement it: the present interim government which brought the people to poverty will be dismissed by people's anger".

The resolution passed at the meeting blames the Russian authorities "for its betrayal of Russia and treachery of its own people—collapse of the Union, anti-people's policy and waging of ethnic enmity".

The meeting also passed a resolution on mass media which sharply criticizes the leaders of the "Ostankino" TV company for propaganda of "lie and violence, sex and pornography" the opposition demanded to give a possibility of every day broadcasting over TV. [sentence as received]

The demonstrators in Ostankino gathered signatures in support of an All-Russian referendum on the premature resignation of the Russian President Boris Yeltsin and on formation of people's detachments "Working "Russia".

After that the demonstrators blocked all the approaches to the TV center and formed "a corridor of disgrace". The demonstrators decided to organize a round-the-clock picketing of the building.

Hunger Strike Launched

LD1206171192 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1600 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Video report by correspondent A. Chukseyev on the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] [Video shows unidentifed individuals seated around a long table in an office and footage of a rally outside Ostankino studios with ralliers waving red flags with portraits of Lenin and the Hammer and Sickle as they are addressed by various speakers]

During today's meeting at Ostankino, the organizers announced a hunger strike in the office of the chairman of the TV company. Yegor Yakovlev received Ampilov, Nosov, Zasedateliy and others so that they could make their position clear. The leaders of the Working Party [Trudovaya Rossiya], the Russian Party [Russkaya Partiya], the Communists of Russia and other so-called patriotic parties demanded a special program called the "Russian Hour" [Russkiy Chas] justifying this by saying that the CIS and Russian TV stations not only fail to take into account the interests of the Russian population, but are even blatantly anti-Russian.

The organizers of the meeting also demanded airtime on the nine o'clock news on Channel One, claiming their freedom of speech as laid down in the Constitution and the declaration of rights and freedoms and the status of people's deputies. Yakovlev refused on the basis of his monopoly regarding decisions on broadcasting issues and he proposed five minutes at 1730 which did not satisfy his guests.

Anpilov consulted with those attending the meeting and was instructed to hold out to the bitter end. The hunger strike is continuing, in spite of the efforts of the militia and of Gennadiy Ponamarev, the Moscow procurator to dissuade him.

It is still not clear if legal acts exist to regulate the actions of the protesters and the TV company. Both sides are convinced that they are in the right.

Anpilov, Makashov Address Rally

LD1206173492

[Editorial Report] Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian at 1341 GMT on 12 June carries a 14-minute report by an unidentified correspondent on the rally held outside the Ostankino Television center including recorded interviews with Viktor Anpilov, head of the Working Russia movement, and General Alber Makashov, former Russian presidential candidate. This report is from an unscheduled information program covering the opposition rallies being held today.

The correspondent begins by saying the rally was organized by the Working Russia, Working Moscow, Union of Communists of Russia, and other communist-oriented movements. Shots of the assembled people are shown and the Soviet national anthem can be heard in the background. People are carrying red flags, hammers, sickles, and posters reading "Television announcers—be the voice of conscience, not the voice of America. We demand television time. Let the people tell the truth. Television prostitutes, you will answer in blood for your lies." The rally began "relatively quietly" and "according to various estimates, by midday on the small square from 15,000 to 50,000 people had gathered."

An unidentified speaker is shown addressing the crowd from a podium in front of which a banner reads: "Working Russia. Our demand is 15 minutes daily on television." He says: "We accuse Democratic Russia of the violent destruction of the country's state integrity." People are shown arguing among themselves in the crowd.

The correspondent notes: "There were not only Muscovites at Ostankino. Representatives from virtually all areas in Moscow oblast and the towns of Ivanovo, Kostroma, Ryazan, and Kharkov came to the rally." The narrator continues over shots of the crowd listening to orators: "The gathering took place under the slogan 'The Yeltsin-Gaydar government should resign.' After the first speeches the demonstrators came to the conclusion that everyone who is dissatisfied with the political and economic situation in the country needs to reinforce his strength for the coming battle. And for this it was recommended that a mass organization be created. Active youth, in the opinion of the orators, should join the Komsomol which will also help 'to defend the Soviet people from humiliation and ruin, and also from the destruction of the working class.' Those who wished could sign up for self-defense units and a people's militia. In the opinion of those speaking from the podiums the people must be both the judge and executor of sentence of the traitors to the nation."

The video then shows Viktor Anpilov, a Working Russia leader, talking to the crowd. The correspondent explains: "On the urging of Viktor Anpilov, the demonstrators moved to storm the television center demanding an immediate meeting with Yegor Yakovlev, chairman of the Russian Television and Radio Broadcasting Company Ostankino, and the granting of live air time to the people gathered. This is how it looked." The video then shows the crowd moving forward and pushing back militiamen, breaking through the militia cordon in places. Outside the Ostankino building people are shown trying to break through militia barriers and there is much fighting between demonstrators and militiamen who are using truncheons. The crowd is shouting "We are people, we are people." The video then shows Anpilov being escorted by a militiaman into the television building. He is then shown seated at a table speaking to several unidentified people, presumably television bosses.

Anpilov says: "We, and the people who are standing on the square, were brought here by the deep indignation at what Central Television and Russian Television is doing to our souls. The practical everyday filling of the screen with the products of a foreign culture, foreign to our people, causes indignation. Therefore, on the basis of the Russian Federation Constitution and on the basis of the declaration of the rights and freedoms of citizens, ratified by the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet, our movement demands that talks, serious talks, be begun immediately on giving, as our rally has just decided, a daily program, not less than one hour long, to the Working Russia movement."

An unidentified person sitting beside Anpilov makes the same demand saying this would be democratic. Another unidentified person, presumably from the television center, criticizes Anpilov and his followers for demonstrating: "I agree that the situation is very difficult. I agree with you that the country is on the verge of civil war. I consider that what you are doing today is a very serious step towards worsening civil war. This is my opinion." He says that they use the word "the people" to justify their actions, but everyday he meets people with different points of view who claim to speak on behalf of "the people."

The video then returns to shots of the crowd while the correspondent says: "The rally leaders demanded in Ostankino that they be given air time today, and they received agreement that they could appear in this program. But this did not suit them, they wanted to choose themselves a time which they preferred. However, the Ostankino Television company heads consider that such a situation is impossible when any public group, outside of any norms, awards itself the right to channel one airtime. However, regardless of this we interviewed Viktor Anpilov and Albert Makashov." Next follow an interview with each of the two men indicated.

Anpilov says: "I do not know what independence day is, but dear compatriots, Russians! I, as one of the organizers of this rally, appeal to you to ponder the fate of our country, of what has happened to us since 1985. Why did we come here today to the television studios? Because the USSR Constitution has been flouted, the blood of our compatriots is flowing, while the top leaders of our Soviet republics claim that they are observing the law. Elementary human rights are being flouted. Today in the metro, for example, escalators were switched off, and old people were literally gasping for breath as they came out of the station. Who did this? By what right? Why, when the price of bread has been raised by 50 times, do our rulers say that the people are thriving? Why have they taken free milk away from infants? Our country used to have dairy canteens and they say that communism is guilty of everything.

"Why is Russian Television forever depicting Yeltsin's popularity in the opinion polls and claiming that Boris Nikolayevich is regarded with extraordinary love by the people, while the people are forced to beg for alms on the streets of our cities?

"Let me ask why we have come here to the television center. It is because we do not have a way out and do have an alternative program, which is very simple. We declare that we demand a return to a planned running of the economy. We demand a return to a planned running of the economy. We demand an immediate halt to the speculation in the country's raw material resources and demand that speculation be banned on pain of death. We have no other way out. We demand an end to the plundering. These are our main demands. We demand that the soviets be reformed and power be handed in actual fact into the hands of the workers, peasants, and working intelligentsia. We demand power for the people and a voice for the people. Our main demand is that the Working Russia movement be given a daily program of 15 minutes' duration so that it can act as defender of the interests of the working man. Join with us and support us, comrades!"

Video now shows General Makashov standing in the crowd. He says: "Why have about 50,000 or possibly more people gathered here today in this square in front of the television tower? It is surely because most of the inhabitants of the Union and Russia are tired of listening to lies and are tired of paying taxes for television that does not reflect the thoughts and aspirations of the people, while the present state of the people is such—forgive me, but it is not for me as a general to speak for all our population on how we live at present—and we are promised that it will be even worse. One must believe and rely on this prediction that things will be even worse. In such an event it will be real genocide. What is now occurring is bad.

"Let me avail myself of this opportunity, since the opposition is not given live air time and is not given the chance for real work with the population. I should like to ask all the people of the Soviet Union and Soviet Russia to unite all their efforts to see that we have a patriotic government and a patriotic president and that the inhabitants in every corner of the Soviet Union feel as they did earlier. One must not cast away the old existence. Believe me—and we can all remember this—in 1985 before the start of all this perestroyka we did not live badly. It could have been possible without smashing the machine to dismantle, clean, and lubricate it and set it to work afresh. By smashing the machine our rulers and our presidents were probably carrying out some order. One of them is now travelling to out-of-the-way places collecting tribute in the form of prizes and fees for his appearances.

"We appear without payment, we are patriots. I want the patriots of Russia and the Union to unite and our great state and our great nation to be reborn in our country. We are truly great people, but for this we need to carry out our task and servicemen need to fulfil their oath to the entire Soviet people who were wonderful to them. Indeed Holy Rus has welded all the republics together forever. I believe that there will be a revival of a great Russia and a great Soviet Union. We shall triumph."

An unidentified person asks Makashov if the course of a forcible overthrow of power is possible. Makashov answers: "We do not need to talk about that. This rotten fruit will fall of its own accord. If last year without sufficient aforethought people began prematurely to shake it, that only played into the hands of the regime that now governs us.

"Do believe that Makashov is not a dictator. Those who were scared of Makashovism have now got Yeltsinism. Compare them and see which is worse."

The report ends with the correspondent saying that the rally in front of the Ostankino tower is continuing. Its organizers are threatening to stage a hunger strike which will end when their demands are met.

'Tent City' Set Up

OW1306134592 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1315 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Beginning Saturday [13 June] morning several hundreds of activists of "Working Russia" movement, of "Russian Union", of "Fatherland" society, and of the Russian Communist Labor Party (RCLP of Viktor Anpilov) are continuing to picket the TV center in Ostankino demanding to give the opposition representatives an opportunity for one hour every day radio and TV broadcasting.

The day before the representatives of the opposition who managed to enter the building and the chairman of the "Ostankino" TV company Yegor Yakovlev reached an agreement to discuss this question on Monday June 15.

"IF" [INTERFAX] reports that a tent city appeared near the Ostankino TV tower. The most ardent supporters of the opposition, its residents, announced about their intention to organize a round-the-clock picketing of Ostankino. "We shall not leave Ostankino until all the demands concerning TV are fulfilled", a commander of a RCLP working detachment from a city Kaliningrad located near Moscow Lev Norin told "IF". He qualified "Ostankino" TV company as "an empire of lie" and said that the people must know the truth about what is happening in the Soviet Union.

Talks Scheduled

LD1206221792 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 2000 GMT 12 Jun 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Events outside the TV center have continued to develop and the picket of the TV center went on until midnight. [video shows scenes outside the Ostankino TV center earlier in the day] We have just received a statement from the council of opposition forces. Those participating in the meeting at Ostankino on 12 June demnded five minutes live on air and the provision of air-time on the first channel for a daily program "An hour for the Russian people". The leadership of the television and radio company refused to fully comply with these demands. In reply, the delegation announced a political hunger strike in the office of Yakovlev, the company chairman. Those taking part in this action were representatives of the Trudovaya Rossiya organization, the public-political Union of Civic Accord, the Nashi movement, the workers soviets of Moscow and Leningrad, the Russian Union, the Russian People's Union, and the Union of Officers. They have formed the Union of Opposition Forces.

After a delegation from the Russian National Assembly headed by Aleksandr Sterligov, arrived at the Ostankino TV center, the leadership of the Ostankino TV and radio company confirmed their readiness to begin official talks with the Council about the organization of a regular program, the name of which is to be determined as the talks progress.

The hunger strike has been suspended until the talks begin on 15 June.

Ostankino TV 'Balanced' Broadcasts Examined

LD1406190292

[Editorial Report] Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian at 1250 GMT on 13 June carries a 40-minute edition of the "Red Square" program. The show consists of a studio conversation between presenter Aleksandr Lyubimov and Igor Malashenko, deputy director general of the Ostankino Television and Radio Company; Andranik Migranyan, the "Red Square" program's semiresident political observer; Nikolay Pavlov, member of the coordinating council of the Russian Unity bloc of opposition factions; Endre Salipski, Hungarian press attache in Moscow; and Ural Sharipov, chairman of the Moscow Tatar Public Center.

The studio conversation begins after Lyubimov's introduction using a video report by (Aleksandr Berggolts) on the evolution of the Ostankino first television channel. Aleksandr Olkhovnikov, an Ostankino first television channel sociologist, says in an interview that audience research is underdeveloped at Ostankino first television channel compared with the West, but that the advent of private advertising is promoting it at Ostankino first television channel.

Returning to the studio, Lyubimov asks Malashenko: "Igor Grigoryevich, two Russian companies now exist. What is the difference between them?" He clarifies the question by asking the difference "between them and us".

Malashenko replies: "Between them and us? Well, I would not put the question like that. I would prefer to talk about the first and second channel."

Lyubimov states: "Since the Russian Television management refused to come to the studio today, I have divided it into us and them"

Malashenko replies: "Understood, but this is indeed very lamentable, because it seems to me to be not quite correct to talk about the Russian channel in their absence. On the whole, Ostankino first television channel strives to be primarily the television station of the Commonwealth and to remember above all that its audience is the whole territory of the former Soviet Union. It takes this into account in its programming policy when making decisions about programs.

"If one is talking about content—and I am primarily involved in the problems of documentary television and political programs—I would say that Russian Television is more politicized, but it is possible that representatives of Russian Television would not agree with putting it this way. In other words, they seem to have a greater proportion of political programs. But if one is talking about documentaries, then on that television station they represent their own views to a greater extent [eto televideniye boleye avtorskoye]. The 'Vesti' announcers, for instance, represent their own points of view to a greater extent. Incidentally, this is more interesting for the audience.

"In any case, this is how I explain the higher ratings, on average, of the 'Vesti' announcers in comparison with Ostankino news, which strives—and I stress this word because we do not always manage it—to give the news without comment."

Migranyan says that the golden journalistic rule of objectivity is being broken in this case. Malashenko replies that "there are certain realities." He notes: "We are still talking about post-Soviet television, let's put it that way. Basically, this television is being made by roughly the same people who made it three or five years ago. One cannot get away from this televisual tradition, from this televisual culture. We can only strive for some kind of ideals, but we are still very far from them."

Lyubimov says: "There is a paradox. Given what you say that Russian Television is more politicized, all the political scandals of recent times have been associated with our Ostankino first television channel." He continues by citing examples of "the film about Moldova and the famous news conference by Nikita Mikhalkov holding the management of our channel to shame."

Malashenko responds: "We manage to keep shooting ourselves in the foot, as a television critic justly said, talking about these programs. Such programs undoubtedly arise, and here the problem is very simple. Television can be a basket into which all the programs anyone has done are put. There has to be some criteria for their selection. Up to recently the criteria was very simple. There was political censorship and everything was as clear as crystal. Now this is certainly no longer the case."

Migranyan queries: "Are you sure it isn't, Igor? What about the fact that the first channel is—or you would like it to be—the channel of the CIS? Don't you feel you depend on the CIS and on its republics? Aren't you looking over your shoulder while you are making programs or putting them on air to see how this or that republic will react?"

Malashenko replies: "Naturally, ideally, our dependence on the fact that we are the television of the Commonwealth should manifest itself in that broadcasts should be as objective as possible, balanced and uncolored by emotional commentaries, and then we can go to bed with a clear conscience. Unfortunately, this isn't happening. Unfortunately, in reality we are having to look over our shoulder and simply take it as a fact that when we transmit this or that broadcast it will not please everyone."

Migranyan asks whether there is a chance of not being completely impartial so as not to offend this or that person. Malashenko says: "I will say that we think about this more frequently than our colleagues at other channels."

Asked about dependence on the republics, to what extent they finance Ostankino, and whether there is a fear of their reaction being commensurate with the monetary contributions they make, Malashenko says: "No. This is not a financial problem. Our television is primarily financed by the Russian Government. We are thinking above all about the audience. Do you see? This is quite a serious snare. Aleksandr Lyubimov mentioned the program about Moldova. This was not a problem of money; this was a problem of the audience. Tomorrow Chisinau could adopt a decision after one of our programs to pull the plug on Ostankino first television. You know that there has been such an attempt. It is a question of quite a large audience for which the Ostankino first television channel is now practically the only link with the people who live on the territory of the former USSR. This really is a serious consideration—an extratelevisual one, if we can put it that way—which one has to take on board."

After a commercial break, Nikolay Pavlov appears in the studio and describes the situation at Russian Television as the "apogee of totalitarianism," claiming that 45 minutes of opposition views are represented every fortnight. He also mentions the lobbying needed to get a pro-Dniester Republic program shown on Ostankino first television channel, to which Malashenko responds: "The film which has been mentioned, 'The Situation in the Dniester Region,' was shown on the first channel. On purely professional criteria I am firmly convinced that this film should not have been shown. I want to stress this." Pavlov notes that it was shown. Malashenko says: "Yes, a political problem arose. We were immediately accused of political censorship. We showed this film precisely because we were taking into account this political reality, so to speak. On purely professional considerations I consider that this was not a documentary. It was an agitational, propagandistic broadcast, and I could not care less whose side it was on—the right bank or the left bank—because a journalist must be objective."

Pavlov rejects this and only admits "a certain sympathy for the Dniester republicans" in the film. He criticizes Sokirke, the Ostankino first television channel Chisinau correspondent, for being biased in favor of Moldova, to which Migranyan agrees. Drawing the flak away from Sokirke, Malashenko continues: "Let's take a somewhat different situation, for instance, Armenia and Azerbaijan. Unfortunately, very often, every day, we are confronted with a situation where both from Baku and from Yerevan subjects are sent to us, again not complying with the criteria of news journalism. You see? The journalist is clearly supporting one side. Then we have to make a decision. Either we give both sides to create some kind of pseudobalance that irritates the audience both there and here, or we do not show anything, and then we see the announcer in the role of a narrator dolefully reading out reports from a scrap of paper. This is not television any more."

Pavlov says that in France there is a law that one-third of political programs go to the government, one-third to the parliamentary majority, and the last third to the parliamentary minority. He asserts that communists pay their taxes and are entitled to a say on Ostankino first television channel. With evident irritation, Malashenko responds, punctuating his words with stabs of his index finger in the air. He says: "I would simply like to return this question to the esteemed people's deputy. Legislation has to be adopted. You are now appealing to the audience. This is natural. Evidentally this can and should be done, but appeal to your parliament! Adopt this law. We will be very grateful if at last a clear-cut legislative framework appears. Moreover, in our country an important part of the opposition is constituted by the extraparliamentary opposition, so let's also determine what will happen to it."

Continuing, he says: "The day before yesterday a rally of the Russian Party, which is also after air time, took place near this studio. How will the rules of three thirds work here?" Pavlov suggests setting up a commission. Malashenko then asks what air time should be given to political groups within the territory of the former USSR, to which Pavlov inconsistently replies that his remarks were more about Russian Television.

An anonymous report over video follows on EC television legislation. Back in the studio Pavlov is replaced by the Hungarian press attache, who explains that in the spring Ostankino first television channel went off the Hungarian airwaves because Hungarian television refused to pay for it, but that it has since been reinstated through the efforts of political organizations, public organizations, and sponsors, but he is not sure whether Ostankino first television channel will still be transmitted six months from now if Hungary has to pay for this, to which Malashenko replies: "This is naturally quite a weighty reproach, although if it is a question of finances, then one should say quite honestly that Ostankino is going through very hard times and it is very difficult to support such projects financially. As far as the fate of our channel's transmission to Hungary in six months' time is concerned, this primarily depends on the interests of the audience."

After a brief collage of clips from Ostankino first television channel's output, the program returns to the studio, where the Hungarian is replaced by Sharipov, who demands that Ostankino first television channel set up a Tatar editorial office to produce programs for expatriate Tatars. Pavlov thinks the Jews should have Jewish programs too. Malashenko's reaction is that for Ostankino first television channel to cater to all the minorities in the former USSR is impractical.

Russian National Assembly Holds Congress

LD1206180892 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1600 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Report by correspondent M. Sarbaa; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] [Video shows hall filled with people, predominantly men dressed in military style black uniforms. An unidentified speaker addresses them from a rostrum decorated with the insignia of St. George slaying the dragon, and the same design can be seen hanging on the wall flanked by a yellow and black nationalist flag] The first congress of the Russian National Assembly [Russkiy Natsionalniy Sobor] opened in Moscow today under the protection of fighters and Cossacks. The organizers declared this day to be a national day of opposition to Yeltsin's government of occupation. The Russian National Assembly announced its existence in Nizhniy Novgorod this February. The movement is part of the Slavic Assembly which was established as a cultural and educational organization. Today, not only assorted peoples and national-patriotic groupings, but also Cossack territorial units and commercial and exchange structures participate in this organization. The writer Rasputin, and Sakhalin Governor Fedorov, as well as Serlikov, a former KGB general, are members of its leading body. They propose carrying out direct elections for the post of head of state of the Soviet Union [as heard] and for the cabinet.

Covers Political Spectrum

LD1206201192 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1322 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Excerpts] Today is June 12th, Russia's Independence Day, the first in the history of our state, an official holiday. Perhaps, it is precisely this day that has brought to life considerable political activity in our blessed capital of Russia among other cities. My colleague Kirill Shakhnovich has been running around various parts of Moscow and rallies since morning and has come here to somehow sum up his observations. Please:

[Shakhnovich] The population's activity focused mainly on opposition. Despite high tempers and irreconcilability toward Yeltsin displayed at the rally near the TV Center, today's main rally, the main force and brain of the opposition held a session elsewhere, at the first Russian National Assembly. It has rented the Hall of Columns. The meeting will last for two days—and a day's rental costs 1.5 million rubles. As I was told, this is the money of truly patriotic entrepreneurs.

A strict registration procedure was in force, supervised by boys dressed in black and by Cossacks. In the hall Zhirinovskiy spoke with Nevzorov who was wearing a leather jacket; General Makashov, wearing short pants, appeared accompanied by writer Prokhanov. Unlike the congress of democrats, everything was very well organized here. Stormy applause died down at the chairman's signal, resolutions were passed unanimously.

What unites these people? After all, one can see monarchists- nationalists, KGB staffers, engineering and technical personnel, along with many military and communist figures in the hall. So, in the view of these patriots, international forces embodied by the International Zionist Organization, the World Jewish Congress, and some other organizations are destroying Slavic statehood through the United Nations, the CSCE, the EC, and NATO. In Shafarevich's view, the West is in crisis now and needs the Third World countries, that is, us.

A warning that UN troops were being brought to Moscow streets was soon given. Shafarevich ended by saying: God and the great Slavic people are with us. Then Sterligov, former KGB major general and cochairman of the Assembly, spoke. Writer Rasputin said that the Russians would not put up with the petty devils from television any longer. As we remember, television has always been important as much for the democrats as for any force striving for power. In this case, however, the presence of Krutov, former USSR Deputy and television journalist who used to present the pre-August "Vremya" program, and Kostenko, the present presenter [of "Novosti"] at the Assembly implies the opposite. The rumors that have been circulating around the Ostankino company for a long time about a new program under the working title "Slavic Assembly" [Slavyanskiy Sobor], which has been approved by Yeltsin, will, it seems, cover the opposition's activity.

Speeches by Tuleyev, Ilyukhin, writer Belov, and former secretary of the Romanian Communist Party Zyuganov are in progress. Perhaps ex-democrat Yuriy Vlasov will speak, too; he has a place of honor in the Presidium. I saw film director Govorukhin, actor Nozhkin, Alksnis, Sazhi Umalatova, and many other people in the audience.

Here are a few excerpts from the Assembly's program. First task is to depose the current government of national betrayal by constitutional means. For this a vigorous propaganda campaign should be started in the media, labor collectives, and so on. In an extreme case a Russia-wide political strike should be organized. The economic platform includes traditional planning. Monetary reform is being put forward, naturally accompanied by declarations of income. Young people are mentioned, too, in very curious sentences: The decay of society and the state has spread, first of all, into the young generation. As a result of a fairly stupid and large-scale campaign of blackening our entire past, our young people have become disillusioned by the ideals of the past but cannot find replacements in today's life and therefore do not see a worthy future for themselves.

The main idea is that a revival of the people's spiritual and national feelings should proceed, primarily, through restoring our historical memory. The media's duty is to extol national heroes and the people's feats to the glory of the homeland. There are many other things, too, such as a perspective of the army and the armed forces: the spiritual and moral education of young people, as that of the entire people, is inseparable from patriotic education, the patriotic concern about the homeland and its future.

Well, there are many different things at this congress but one is certain, the opposition's profile has become much higher than before thanks to the fact that it has included many forces from former democrats and the intellectual potential of members of the back-to-the-soil movement [pochvenniki]. [passage omitted]

Rasputin, Umalatova Comment

LD1206165192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1528 GMT 12 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ludmila Alexandrova]

[Text] Moscow June 12 TASS—The Russian National Convention, uniting Russian patriots for the sake of saving Russia opened in the Moscow's House of Unions on Friday [12 June]. The movement, which bluntly opposes the present government, invited 1250 delegates and guests to take part in a two-day forum. Taking part in the convention are former Soviet parliamentarians general Albert Makashov, Sazhi Umalatova, Yuriy Vlasov, as well as authors Vasily Belov and Aleksandr Prokhanov, TV journalist Aleksandr Nevzorov and former Secretary of Russian Communist Party's Central Committee Gennadiy Ziuganov. The delegates will discuss the "programme of actions to save the fatherland," to adopt an address to the nation and amendments to the convention's charter.

The Russian National Convention, which was launched in the city of Nizhny Novgorod early this year, is headed by two co-chairmen: former KGB General Aleksandr Sterligov and famous writer Aleksandr Rasputin. The convention takes a more radical stand than the Russian National Assembly but it did not admit the "Pamyat" nationalists to the forum.

Addressing the delegates, Valentin Rasputin said that "Satanic forces are experimenting on Russia" which is "surrounded by domestic and foreign devils" and that "Russia cannot recover from blows it received from democrats." Rasputin called Russians to seek salvation in the Orthodox Church. Aleksandr Sterligov said that Russia's foes "are working on destroying Russia" and added that the goals of American imperialism to demolish Russia have been achieved. Yeltsin and his accomplices have reached their objective to weaken Russia and now they can "board their plane and fly off to their Western values". Among Russia's immediate tasks is "to prevent hunger, which democrats are trying to drive people into to make them obedient," and "to block the irresponsible transfer of Western models onto Russian soil."

The delegates began to discuss the programme of actions which outlines the convention's strategy and tactics. The programme says, for example, that "a covert anti-national objective of destroying the Russian statehood is being carried out", "hunger and cold are threatening the country".

The Russian National Convention calls "national patriotic forces, united irrespective of their political differences" to struggle in order to come to power for the lofty goal of saving the fatherland. The first task is to "remove the present government of national treachery by constitutional means", and "to form the national salvation committee" which will have all the executive authority to control the work of local "national salvation committees". At the first stage the convention projects non-economic methods of management, a monetary reform, refusal from large-scale privatisation and prohibition of foreign currency circulation on the Russian territory.

"I am present at the congress because people who are really worried about the fate of their country have gathered here", Sazhi Umalatova, one of the organisers of the so-called 6th Congress of Soviet Deputies told TASS. "I fully support what was said in the congress hall. People have realised at last that from one deception they have been verged into another," she added.

Moscow Rally Supports Defense of South Ossetia

LD1306202192 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1600 GMT 13 Jun 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] This seems to be the norm: Any interethnic conflict on the territory of the former USSR is always Russia's fault. Here, at a rally in defense of South

Ossetia, one could hear yet again reproaches addressed to Russia. It took place in Moscow by the central gates of a park of culture and recreation. Speakers accused the Russian leadership of betraying the interests of the South Ossetian people and demanded that Russian troops be introduced on the territory of South Ossetia. Those taking part in the rally appealed to the government of this republic to withdraw its signatures on the Federation Treaty, since the Russian Federation failed to give its consent to including South Ossetia into its composition. Appeals to declare an economic and political blockade to Georgia were also addressed to the government of the Russian Federation. [video shows rally by closed park gates, participants holding placards reading "Minister Grachev, You Have Disgraced the Name of the Russian General by Supplying Georgian Murderers with Weapons and by Leaving Children and Women with No Protection", "Economic and Political Blockade of Fascist Georgia"]

Intervention Demanded

OW1306170992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1634 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A member of the coordinating committee of the "Working Russia" movement Vyacheslav Shporty appealed to the population of South and North Ossetia to organize gathering of signatures demanding resignation of the Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

He addressed a meeting organized by the Kurdish society of the Ossetian culture "Farn" on Saturday [13 June] in Moscow at the entrance of Gorkiy Park. The participants of the meeting, 300 in number, demanded the Russian leadership resolutely intervene in South Ossetian conflict and stop bloodshed.

They also condemned the transfer of arms and military equipment to the Georgian side by the Russian army.

Servicemen's Salaries Raised 80 Percent

LD1306030792 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0100 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] The Russian Government has decided to raise the salaries of servicemen by 80 percent from 1 June [date as heard], ITAR-TASS reports. The decision applies both to the salaries of regular officers and to the allowances of conscript servicemen.

The document says that the new measure has been taken to improve the social security of servicemen and to provide appropriate conditions for military service.

Farmers Make Demands To Solve Economic Crisis

LD1106104892 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1100 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Report by correspondent Olga Yermakova]

[Text] The traditional patience of the farmers seems to be coming to an end. That is the way one can briefly describe the essence of what has been going on the last two days in the concert hall at Izmaylovo Hotel, where an all-Russia meeting of representatives of the trade union of the agro-industrial complex workers is being held.

A critical situation has developed in the agrarian sector of our economy. In the Russian countryside the burden of economic problems is becoming beyond endurance. Farmers and collective farm workers, trade union leaders of various seniority, and agrarian entrepreneurs talk about all this with anxiety and deep concern.

Aleksandr Yezhikov, a farmer and proprieter from Yaroslavl Oblast, and others, had this to say:

[Begin recording] [Yezhikov] What has made me come here today? I come because of the financial difficulties which are incredible today. As a result of the economic policies of our present government, the peasantry has been reduced to a critical point where it is to be or not to be. Who is to feed Russia? That is why my civic conscience leads me here.

How can a policy that does not stimulate the producer be called a sound one? The producer is not stimulated in any way. The farmer is also under economic pressure. Incredible prices press on him. He cannot survive. He has no means of doing so. Agriculture has completely stopped working for the future and for developing and building its bases. The farmer cannot build his bases because he has no funds. Credits are crushing.

I once told foreign correspondents that they have a saying: When Detroit sneezes, all America shakes, because it is there that the final assembly of machinery is done. Well, if Russia sneezes, the world will fall to pieces. Let them think about that, because our country is the country of Minins and Pozharskiys.

[Dik] I am Yakov Vasilyevich Dik, head of the Glyadenskiy collective farm from Altay Kray. I think that today's conference comes very late. The fact is that the agricultural commodity producer has fallen away. He could not resist the temptation to wreck this measure because our government, with all its policies, conducts matters in such a way that it does not pay attention to those misfortunes that have fallen to the lot of the peasant. This is probably the last peaceful conference that the countryside will hold. After that there will be vigorous actions that will probably force the government to pay attention to agriculture. There is poverty in the village.

[Daltsov] I am Anatoliy Aleksandrovich Daltsov from the Kirov agrarian farm in Rostov Oblast. Taking advantage of the occasion, I would also like to appeal now to everybody who is in some way connected with agriculture. Harvesting time is at the door. This is the consummation of everything. If we do not understand each other now, if we do not support each other, we will lose the grain crops. That will be a disaster. [end recording]

The participants in the meeting adopted a document that they called a demand to the Russian president, the Supreme Soviet, and the Russian Federation Government, which contains the top priority tasks for pulling the village out of the crisis.

Farmers Seen Impatient With Government Policy

PM1206084392 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 6 Jun 92 First Edition p 1

[Commentary by Yevgeniya Pishchikova: "There Will Be Many New Parties—All Peasant Parties"]

[Text] It looks as if our country has seen the end of almost nine months of political apathy caused by the fact that any opposition assuming power (especially a long-awaited opposition) has the right to several cracks at the whip. In other words, it can make several attempts at efficiently implementing its package of Messianic ideas. During this period of political calm, virtually every sensible, influential person in the old power structures has moved into the new power structures, preferring the economic advantage of controlling the situation to political declarations. The only political party which considers itself to be close to the levers of government, Democratic Russia, has swallowed the dregs of its Jacobinism in the obvious realization that power attracts power in the same way that money attracts money.

In any case, the situation has now dramatically changed; two events have taken place in the last few days which, while unequal in significance, are equally interesting from the point of view of the new politics. An antigovernment party of provincial governors and directors of industrial enterprises has been formed. At the same time, peasant parties with identical complaints against the government have begun to seek an association, or at least similar methods of voicing their discontent. The situation is unique because the people who have decided to confront the government are private farmers, rather than collective and state farm leaders, whose bad political activity could be ascribed to their innate conservatism.

The Moscow Union of Peasants (Private Farmers) and newly formed Democratic Peasant Party of Russia are two interconnected formations, the first of which is a politically separate but economically dependent faction of the Association of Russian Peasant Farms and Agricultural Cooperatives. They issued a statement in the press which said that private farmers are so outraged by the government's deception, the inadequacy of promised aid, and the impossibility of obtaining land and credits that, in the event of continued government indifference, they would organize acts of civil disobedience and use their equipment to seal off the main roads leading into Moscow on 1 June.

So far, however, the Moscow Union of Peasants has not done this. In fact, on 1 June the "Free Russia" People's Party organized a "roundtable"—"Agrarian Reform and Political Parties"—at which it proposed that all peasant parties unite and try to influence the government by nonviolent methods. For your information, the assets of the "Free Russia" People's Party include a faction in the Supreme Soviet, Moscow City Soviet, and Moscow Oblast Soviet. It takes a generally democratic stand and a totally trivial attitude to peasant problems.

Quite clearly, it is a sorry situation indeed when all the main subjects of government are in opposition to the government and all primary producers intend to unite in antigovernment parties.

The "roundtable" was not particularly interesting in itself, although everything said makes it possible to draw a number of interesting conclusions.

Even in recent years, collective and state farms, and also private farmers recruited by the state, have regarded the state as their main investor. Consequently, what is happening now can, with a reasonable measure of assumption, be seen as the hysterics of a deceived creditor, because the government, with inexplicable unconcern, has contrived to renege on virtually every promise made to private farmers in compensation for their many financial and other difficulties.

There is no credit supply in the banks. The Russian Central Bank, which has "fled" into solitary opposition, sells credit to its provincial colleagues at an interest rate of 83 percent. A resolution on closing the gap between commercial and preferential rates for private farmers was only signed 1 May; in any case, it envisaged a situation where credit was still sold at an interest rate of 53 percent.

Vershinin, chairman of the Moscow Union of Peasants (Private Farmers), believes that, with this kind of policy, private farmers are doomed to bankruptcy and extinction and that we will have neither private farmers, collective farms, nor state farms by next summer. Judging by his words, if commodity agricultural output remains so unprofitable, we will have an agricultural desert. Moreover, peasants will turn to subsistence farming and be able to paper their bathroom walls with banknotes. We, meanwhile, will have to take cassette recorders and television sets to the countryside to exchange for sacks of flour.

The next conclusion which could be drawn from the discussion of the problems raised at the "roundtable"—although, strictly speaking, the new politicians did not touch on this question—is that holding a referendum on private ownership of land right now would clearly be unwise. In fact, it would be unwise to introduce this kind of ownership at all until we have finally implemented and completed land reform, which will guarantee the distribution of land between uninfluential private agricultural producers. In theory, private ownership of land is essential to private farmers, but in practice the situation is developing in such a way that, in areas where land already has an unofficial sale value (the Moscow region and Krasnodar Kray), private farmers are essentially in no position to acquire it. Evidence of this is provided by the testimonies of private farmers from Volokolamskiy

Rayon and Solnechnogorskiy Rayon who addressed the "roundtable" and still do not have land of their own. State farms are handing it over to wealthy organizations to build dachas, taking money as if to cover their loss—that is happening everywhere. For your information, six-hundredths of a hectare in a remote area of the Moscow region, without supply lines or paved roads, in open country, costs anything up to $1,000. Land is being bought up by directors of enterprises in the Moscow region, members of the oblast union of consumer trade cooperatives, and local leaders. There is a small area of Volokolamskiy Rayon which it is planned to flood. It is divided entirely into "private holdings" belonging to the local nomenklatura, which is expecting to be compensated for the loss of land.

So, private farmers have loved and suffered Gaydar for a very long time, but every credit of trust, particularly interest-free credit, must naturally come to an end. Even two months ago, ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA wrote that private farmers and collective and state farms have twin economic interests and that they could perfectly well unite to form a single, antigovernment peasant party.

Popov Urges Establishment of 'Strong Authority'

LD1106074192 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1800 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Report by correspondent Yevgeniy Zherebenkov on news conference by former Moscow Mayor Gavriil Popov on 10 June; place not given—recorded excerpts in quotations]

[Text] [Zherebenkov] The situation in Russia, in Gavriil Popov's view, is beginning to be very reminiscent of 1917 when the democratic forces attempted to save the variant for Russia's development along the path of democracy. The Bolsheviks then managed to successfully torpedo these attempts. Something similar can also happen now. True, it is no longer possible to stop the reforms but the struggle will develop between the democratic and the nomenclature variant, Gavriil Popov believes.

[Popov] "From today's situation in Russia there can only be two ways out. Both ways out are connected with setting up a strong authority, both ways are out. Only a strong authority is now capable of carrying through agrarian reform and other reforms. But a strong authority can be created in two variants.

"The first variant: with the preservation of democratic principles and with the preservation of those elements which will ensure democracy in Russia in future. It is this variant which we are now trying to realize. What is a constituent assembly, a new Constitution, new elections? This is the preservation of the democratic direction even though we believe that alongside there must be a vigorously acting strong executive authority.

"The second variant consists in the following: the situation in Russia will aggravate to such an extent that a strong executive authority is set up—one cannot but set it up. But it is set up as a counterbalance to all democratic institutions, that is to say with the dissolution of parliament, with the dissolution of the soviets, etc. This variant will also resolve the problems of the development, but, in my view, it is exceptionally dangerous, taking into account all tendencies and inclinations of Russia towards totalitarianism, and so on, known to us.

Therefore, essentially these two variants are now struggling. The nomenclature approach to the formation of a strong executive authority will signify that they do not need elections because in elections they will not hold on. So that they will have to...[changes thought] who will restrain the masses in this case?. The calculation is very simple. The calculation is that the masses will be kept under control by the directors and the chairmen of collective farms. If, however, the first democratic variant is chosen, that is to say, connected with elections, it is necessary to carry through mass privatization. Privatization alone will create the possibility to carry though normal elections, will create a middle class which acts in the elections, etc."

[Zherebenkov] The influence of the democratic forces on events taking place, in Popov's view, is clearly insufficient. They must influence more vigorously the processes in the higher echelons of power and the taking of decisions.

Popov on Struggle for Control of Reform

OW1006193492 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1655 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] "There is a struggle between the democratic and nomenclature versions of reform in Russia today, but the process of reform has not come under question", said the leader of the Russian Democratic Reform Movement Gavriil Popov. He said, in response to a question from "IF" [INTERFAX] at a press conference in Moscow Wednesday [10 June], that in any event strict rule would be established in Russia. Popov said that in one case privatization will be implemented, a class of owners be created and democracy preserved. In the other case, strict rule will be instituted in contrast to democratic reform, and representatives of the domestic nomenclature, old and new appartchiks will join the rule. To back up the latter thesis, Popov used the example of the release of coup leader Starodubtsev, which he said "may be considered a step toward the reconciliation of the old and new nomenclature".

Popov, who recently stepped down as Mayor of Moscow, said that in certain circumstances the chauvinist-patriotic organizations and fascist groups are gaining a wider social base and may rise to power.

The democrats must now increase pressure to insure Russia moves along on the reform course, Popov stressed.

Referring to the "Yeltsin figure", Popov said that as a president he is constantly subject to pressure from all sides. He said that prior to the latest appointments in the government Gaydar's Cabinet was "a team with similar views", but now the government has become "a set of people who in spite of their favorable qualities will have to get along". In addition, he said the West gave credit "under Gaydar", but the question of whether Russia will receive the large financial aid may become more complicated now. Popov said the only way out is to appoint a premier of the government.

Russian Prosecutor Stepankov Interviewed

MK1206093192 Moscow FEDERATSIYA in Russian 10-16 Jun 92 pp 2-3

[Interview with V. Stepankov, Russian general prosecutor, by Aleksandr Andronov; place and date not given: "Valentin Stepankov: 'A Prosecutor Does Not Only Accuse...'"]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Andronov] The worsening of interethnic conflicts is causing concern about the defense of human rights. Many legal documents say that insulting national dignity is an indictable offense. We can see violence, blood, refugees, yet I cannot immediately recall cases of culprits having been called to account.

[Stepankov] Let me say that in these cases criminal proceedings are instituted against people for trying to kindle interethnic hostility rather than for their views. There are already examples of this. Quite recently we brought criminal proceedings against Fauziya Bayramova, the leader of the Tatar national revival party "Ittifak," for publicly calling for interethnic enmity and fueling dissent between the Tatar and Russian peoples. Some newspapers have also carried articles which break the law, and we have raised the question with a number of publications in Moscow and St. Petersburg.

[Andronov] But the interethnic situation is continuing to deteriorate. Can the prosecutor's office do something to ease or not avert the conflicts?

[Stepankov] We must find out what is behind them. First and foremost, it is a question of poor supervision by the prosecutor's office, but of failure to resolve social, economic, and political problems and of people's level of culture and morality. It is even hard to implement the Law "On the Rehabilitation of Peoples Subjected to Repression," which everyone welcomed. Notably because there is still a tense situation in the Checheno-Ingushetia Republic and in South Ossetia, and this is also affecting North Ossetia. The deterioration in interethnic relations is slowing down the implementation of this law. It does, after all, make provision not only for political and moral rehabilitation, but also for territorial rehabilitation, and this is impossible in these conditions.

[Andronov] You met recently with the Cossacks, members of one people who were subjected to repressions. Did you manage to find a common language with them?

[Stepankov] We had talks in Moscow, Karachayevo-Cherkessia, and Stavropol Kray. We secured mutual understanding on many questions. The Cossacks respect customs and traditions. We resolved a number of matters at local level. Some problems are due to legislative regulation. A draft law on the rehabilitation of the Cossacks, which we took part in formulating, was recently submitted to the Russian Supreme Soviet Presidium. Awareness of the Cossacks' concerns, wishes, and demands will enable us to take a more active part in putting the finishing touches to this law. [passage omitted]

[Andronov] The editorial office receives plenty of letters from the CIS countries, especially from the Baltic, that speak about violations of the rights of the Russian-speaking population. Do you keep in contact with your colleagues in the former Union republics?

[Stepankov] We have essentially broken off relations and begun living in different legal spaces. This is a nuisance since the criminal world operates in the same framework as it did before. The work of the entire law-enforcement system has become very complex. We are forced to enter into multilateral and bilateral contacts. In February the prosecutors of the CIS and the Baltic held a conference in Moscow. We formulated a number of agreements on cooperation, exchange of operational information, assistance for investigations, and extradition procedures for people who have committed crimes on other states' territory. But there are a host of problems. For instance, a man is traveling through Moscow, he witnesses a crime, and then goes home to Ukraine (Byelarus or Georgia). The Moscow court requires his testimony, but he does not want to come. On Russian Federation territory we have the right to use the militia to force a witness to attend court. But not in other states. Legal aid agreements are needed in the CIS states.

[Andronov] That's crime. What about the rights of the Russian-speaking population?

[Stepankov] Russia's laws are valid on its territory. So we can only defend people whose roots are in Russia but who live outside it by means of agreements that we will sign with these states based on principles and guarantees of human rights adopted both at international level and within these countries. [passage omitted]

[Andronov] How has the activity of the prosecutor's office changed as a result of the signing of the Federation Treaty?

[Stepankov] Any state—be it federative or confederative—must have pivots that guarantee its existence. The prosecutor's office is one of those. In signing the treaty, the republics shared powers and retained the system for supervising implementation of the laws.

Attempts by a number of states to bring the prosecutor's office under their jurisdiction may seem to be a manifestation of sovereignty. But in actual fact this causes the degradation of the prosecution system and limits the defense of human rights. Today for instance orders from the prosecutor in Tatarstan or Bashkortostan for a man to be arrested in Kamchatka, Magadan, or Murmansk will be carried out because these prosecutors are operating within our unified structure. But what would happen if they secede?

Take the cadre question. The Russian general prosecutor appoints 2,500 prosecutors in rayons and cities and they feel independent of the local authorities. Republic exclusivity will inevitably cause local cadres to take priority. So, graduates of Russian higher educational establishments will not go to work there, there are no promotion prospects, and many people will leave these areas, moreover. Republic prosecution systems will break away from Russia's scientific research institute and two institutes for enhancing skills, as well as the unified accounting and statistics systems and so on.

Moreover, the citizens of these republics will lose their chance of appealing against the decisions of rayon courts to a court of third instance—the Russian Supreme Court, which rectifies a host of mistakes, including on our initiative. There is growing awareness of these problems. The leadership of Dagestan, for instance, is pursuing a policy of internationalizing the law- enforcement system. Tatarstan's new prosecutor has been appointed by order of the general prosecutor by agreement with the republic's Supreme Soviet, that is, in accordance with the Russian Constitution.

[Andronov] The republics sometimes adopt decisions that contravene federal laws. What do you do then?

[Stepankov] Organs of the prosecutor's office are not empowered to supervise the work of legislative organs. We only have the right to make submissions to the republics' supreme soviets and ask them to reconsider a question. That is what we do. In a number of cases the Russian Supreme Soviet has discussed matters. When the Constitutional Court started to operate, materials were sent there.

[Andronov] During our conversation you have laid the emphasis on human rights. These include political rights. Do people's views and convictions and the activity of political parties and movements come within your purview?

[Stepankov] No. In accordance with the December 1990 constitutional amendment the prosecutor's office is responsible for supervising the implementation of the laws by public movements and political parties. I stress that we do not supervise their political activity, but whether they comply with the laws on public movements and parties and other legislative acts, in particular, on the procedure for holding rallies, meetings, and so on.

[Andronov] Have there been violations?

[Stepankov] Yes. Criminal proceedings have been instituted in Kabardino-Balkaria in respect of an attempted conspiracy aimed at seizing power. According to the preliminary findings of the local prosecutor's office there are signs of criminal activity in the actions of the leaders of the Kabardin national movement.

We are also carrying out preventive work. For instance, there were meetings with former USSR people's deputies when they met for their congress. We told them that there is a Russian Supreme Soviet resolution stating that the activity of all former USSR structures is suspended on Russian territory. Attempts to acquire any powers and elect a head of state or chairman of a government could result in a further breach of the law. Needless to say, we are keeping an eye on this.

[Andronov] What progress is being made on the case of party funds?

[Stepankov] In principle we have already completed our review of the Communist Party's financial activity and also that of the Bank for Foreign Economic Activity and the State Depository of Valuables. We have interrogated former CPSU leaders and Politburo members. The information that we have obtained compels us to continue our investigation. Assertions that the prosecutor's office is working on something trivial, that this is a fabrication or a myth about party funds, are unfounded. We already have documents in our possession confirming that the CPSU had control of the state budget, and distributed millions of dollars, valuables, in particular gold and raw material resources, and so on, not in the state's interests but to further its ideological aspirations, nurturing groups that espoused certain political positions, including by supplying them with weapons, and those who used overtly terrorist methods. The CPSU leadership by no means played a minor role in this. That is why some people clearly do not want the closely guarded secret to become public knowledge. [passage omitted]

Implications of Government Appointments Viewed

MK1106094592 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS FAX DIGEST in English 9 Jun 92

[Commentary by "MN [MOSCOW NEWS] Political Editors": "Forecast: Russia on the Threshold of Changes"]

[Text] The latest government replacements and notable partisan activity leave no doubt about it. The long prepared and expected "government reorganization" has taken place at last. The present replacements have not been Yeltsin's improvisation, but a well-thought-out move which could not and did not surprise Gaydar. Moreover, the appointments of Vladimir Shumeyko, Anatoliy Chubays and Boris Saltykov as Vice-Premiers are extremely favourable for him. Incidentally, the first two men had been waiting to take their new offices since early May. The appointments of Georgiy Khizha and Viktor Chernomyrdin are no doubt the result of a compromise with the powerful lobbies exerting pressure on the President. What really matters is the manner rather than the fact of Vladimir Lopukhin's replacement as Minister of Fuel and Power Industry. His going was decided about a month ago, when the able and dynamic Minister faced open demands from other power structures including the President's office for a share in the distribution of oil and gas quotas. If it is true that he was publicly dismissed by Yeltsin while they were in conference, there is food for thought here.

The Russian President's unpredictability is not entirely due to his political temperament. The main cause must be sought in the very soil on which the paradoxical crossbreed of liberal economic ideas and rampant populism known as Yeltsin's political course has been growing. Boris Yeltsin has been raised to the democratic throne on the crest of revolution. His programme—"the good of the working people"—did not differ much in its ultimate objectives from these of the late CPSU programme. True, he suggested different means of attaining them, but how many of us understood their meaning? Privatization, liberalization and business were understood by most as "justice and the good life for all". Russia's first postcommunist President could not and did not have any support other than the love and trust of the people. The first stage of the reform went by under Gaydar's guidance. (But even so Yeltsin seemed to often think of a possible retreat, keeping men of a fundamentally different school of thought in his immediate entourage.) He defended Gaydar from attacks made by Khasbulatov, Rutskoy, parliament, communists, patriots and others. But he cannot and will not defend him from the discontent of the working people—who, in the final analysis, are the President's only real party. A thin line separates the Russian authorities from popular hatred, rather than popular support. It is primarily this threat, and only secondarily the pressure of various lobbies, that makes Boris Yeltsin nervous, unpredictable and difficult to understand.

Presumably, in the weeks to come the Russian President will continue manoeuvring at the top in order to extend credit at the grass-roots. The question is, which political force will be first to come to his aid? The transformation of Gaydar's team into the cabinet of Vice-Premiers means, among other things, serious changes in the alignment of political forces. The main thing is the change of leader. The Democratic Russia movement which has played the first fiddle for a long time seems to be giving way to the the emerging Civil Union bloc to be set up by Rutskoy's and Travkin's parties, along with the Renewal Union (the Directors' party) and the "international" Democratic Reform Movement. His moral commitment to Democratic Russia prevents Boris Yeltsin from openly admitting to a forced union with people whose democratic principles and practices may seem dubious to some of his former comrades-in-arms. Hence Yeltsin's reserve vis-a-vis the said parties and their leaders. Mark also his so far fruitless attempts at setting up a "coalition of reforms" that would include Rutskoy's and Travkin's followers.

The latest government appointments are justifiably ascribed to the influence of Arkadiy Volskiy heading the Industrialists and Entrepreneurs Union and the Renewal Union. If they were not directly agreed with the parties of Rutskoy and Travkin they nevertheless fully correspond to the two leaders' ideas of who should work side by side with Gaydar. This means the President has made his choice. Democratic Russia (at any rate, the followers of Afanasyev and Salye) may be hurt because they regard the cabinet reshuffle as "Boris Yeltsin's and his government's refusal ...to go on with radical democratic reforms", and fear the "threat of military-industrial complex' dictatorship". But what can be done to this military-industrial monster without provoking a revolt by millions of its employees? If the new Vice-Premiers do have the backing of the Civil Union bloc the latter might give executives not just a social basis, but also political structures and the real power they need so badly. In this sense the cabinet of Vice-Premiers appears to be the model of the coalition government, the creation of which has been talked about long and hopefully.

Boris Yeltsin's choice of possible allies is not great. His rapprochement with the neocommunists is out of the question. A softening in his relations with the radical democrats is equally unlikely. An uncompromising drive for a market economy spells death to a people's president. Theoretically speaking, only the moderate national-patriots still have a chance of joining the President, but it's difficult for them come to terms with the legitimately elected president instead of pushing bluntly for his removal. Following the logic of the "third option" and his own character, President Yeltsin is likely to rely on a force combining loyalty to reform with common sense and pragmatism. Only then will the President have the right to say to his people: "Yes, I am loyal to the course of reform, but most of all I am loyal to you". This is how he can prolong his political future.

Ecology Adviser on Past Need for Secrecy

LD1506082292 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1800 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Remarks made during interview with Aleksey Yablokov, adviser to Russian President Boris Yeltsin on ecology, by unidentified correspondent, place and date not given; from the "Top Secret" program—recorded]

[Excerpt] Secrecy in the sphere of ecology used to be the norm. But from the ecological point of view it is immoral to suppress information which has an effect on our health, an effect on our lives, and this runs counter to the declaration on human rights.

I have just come back from a trip with Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin to Altay Kray. Why did I insist—and Yeltsin agreed—that an adviser on ecology should accompany him on this trip? We know that there are ecological problems in the area. I knew about these problems before. While I was there I studied documents which attracted the president's attention. He has already spoken about this—that was a few days ago—but I will still repeat it because it amazed me. In one of the reports that we have now obtained, on radiation contamination of the territory, it emerges that in 1949 and 1950, and in the early 1960's, when explosions were carried out at the Semipalatinsk test site, it was made a condition to choose such weather conditions so that the radioactive cloud would not drift over Kurchatov, that is, over the settlement where the testers themselves lived, that it should not drift over Semipalatinsk, and that it should be kept within the borders of the Soviet Union. That is, it was directed in such a way—there is simply no other way, it won't travel north—it was directed straight to Altay and Barnaul and all the rest.

I can say with satisfaction that on learning about this, Yeltsin declared this a crime, and that it be revealed who signed these instructions, and if there is anyone still living then criminal proceedings should be brought. We have been striving for a long time for liability to be unlimited in duration for crimes of this kind, and for it to be placed on the same footing as crimes against humanity, which have no statutory limitation.

All this plus the immense secrecy which surrounded all radiation issues, because it is linked with the military industrial complex. Do not forget, even atomic power stations—why are they so developed here? Because they are linked with the military industrial complex. It is a link in the chain of creating nuclear weapons, that is the only view you can take of it. Just recently data came to light on incredible radiation contamination of the Yenisey. We knew that there were closed factories producing plutonium near the Yenisey, near Krasnoyarsk. We learned recently that two of the three reactors were operating on parallel flow, that is, they were taking water from the Yenisey and throwing it back into the Yenisey. This is prohibited by all imaginable current instructions. The factories were built a long time ago, 30 or 40 years ago. A decision has now been made by the State Committee for Nuclear Safety to close these two reactors.

But what damage have these two reactors done? For hundreds of kilometers along the Yenisey below Krasnoyarsk, the radiation contamination is in places higher than in the most dangerous regions of Chernobyl, up to 160 curies per square kilometer. That is incredible radiation. These are small patches, of course, perhaps 100 square metres, where there is no contamination, but this information is secret from the people who live there.

There are secret dumps near Moscow and in Moscow. I was told a story, almost a detective story, when the managers of enterprises...[changes thought] It is difficult to get rid of particularly dangerous toxic waste, you have to pay a lot of money to have it sealed in some kind of concrete receptacles and taken to dumps or elsewhere. It is thrown away as though it were industrial refuse. When they [not further identified] tried to investigate it, they came up against a kind of organized mafia which deals with this, at a price, and prevents the inspectors from getting to the dumps. This was going on when I was adviser to the president for ecology. [passage omitted]

Supreme Soviet

Khasbulatov on South Ossetia Conflict

LD1506110892 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0900 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Statement issued by Ruslan Khasbulatov, chairman of the Russian Supreme Soviet, for the press read in the House of Soviets on 15 June—recorded]

[Text] Esteemed citizens of the Russian Federation, as you know from numerous reports in the media, an extremely difficult situation has arisen in a number of regions on Russia's borders. One of the most critical situations which has developed into a bloody confrontation is in South Ossetia. Some political figures in Georgia and armed formations under their control have taken, it seems, a single course on expelling South Ossetians from their historical homeland in Georgia.

South Ossetian towns, villages, and the city of Tskhinvali are being continuously fired on by all types of weapons, including artillery and missiles. There are numerous casualties. Agreements recently reached between the Russian president and the Georgian leadership with the participation of South Ossetia about an end to the bloodshed and the beginning of peace talks, have been cynically ignored by Georgian armed formations; indeed, the attacks have intensified in recent days following a visit to the area by a Supreme Soviet delegation.

Attacks against the civilian population have intensified. Once again there have been numerous casualties in the last few days. At the same time a small contingent of Russian Army units stationed on the territory of South Ossetia with peacekeeping aims has come under intense pressure. There have been incidents of fatal attacks on them, of attacks on military warehouses with attempts to seize equipment, or of outright seizure of equipment.

You know that at Russian Congresses of People's Deputies, and during sessions of the Russian Supreme Soviet, the question of the South Ossetian problem has been discussed more than once, because tens of thousands of refugees are fleeing to densely populated regions of North Ossetia, thus creating conditions for a powerful social explosion capable of spreading throughout the North Caucasus. Therefore, this conflict, this war being waged by armed formations in South Ossetia, cannot be regarded as a purely internal affair in Georgia. It directly affects the lives and interests of our people and the state interests of Russia. This is why—and bearing in mind that this problem directly affects the state interests of the Russian Federation—congresses of people's deputies and the Supreme Soviet have adopted many resolutions, in which the Georgian authorities are reminded that the expulsion of the South Ossetian population to Russia, in particular to North Ossetia, is unacceptable.

It must be said frankly that today these actions must be qualified as genocide and a massive expulsion of the South Ossetian ethnic group from its historic motherland. At the same time, striving to resolve this problem on a conflict-free basis with Georgia, which has had friendly relations with Russia for many centuries, the Russian Supreme Soviet has not examined the official appeal of South Ossetia concerning its joining the Russian Federation.

In the present conditions, when it is evidently intended to pursue a de facto policy through the expulsion of an entire people and the abolition of its autonomy, the Russian Supreme Soviet may be forced to study this question immediately, that is to say, with regard to the question of its joing [prisoyedineniye] Russia, in accordance with the will and desire of the people and an appeal by the South Ossetian authorities to the Russian Parliament. If the Georgian side does not want the events to head in this direction, we demand that it stop the fighting and find enough courage to sit down at the negotiating table, as was agreed somewhat earlier.

Surely the Georgian leaders must understand that the policy and practice of genocide, and provoking complications with Russia casts suspicion on the Georgian people themselves, whose courage, kindness, and justice no one has ever doubted. The Georgian side must understand that all exiles without exception who are on the territory of Russia must be returned to their homes, and that it is utterly futile to shed blood over completely unattainable objectives. At the same time, we demand an immediate end to the acts of provocation against Russian soldiers and officers in South Ossetia, who are carrying out their military duty of protecting the civilian population.

We warn that otherwise, Russia is capable of taking immediate measures to defend its citizens from criminal attempts on their lives, and to render harmless those villainous groups which have been shooting to kill, both with regard to the civilian population and Russian soldiers.

Session Considers State of North, South Ossetia

Gaydar Delivers Report

OW1206174992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1457 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On Friday [12 June], the Russian parliament approved the introduction of the state of emergency in a number of North Ossetian regions. The Russian government was instructed to provide the financial and technical backing to the state of emergency regime. Troops will be involved.

The parliament also listened to Yegor Gaydar's report on the situation in South Ossetia and passed a resolution on the issue. It says that the measures which have been taken lately to end combat operations in South Ossetia have been inefficient, which may seriously destabilize the situation in North Ossetia and in the Caucasus as a whole.

The Russian government was instructed to inform the UN Security Council and the governments of the CIS and other states of the measures which can be taken to protect civilians and to ensure the security of Russia's southern borders. To take coordinated decisions and efficient measures to normalize the situation in South Ossetia, the Russian parliament proposed setting up a joint commission consisting of representatives of Russia, Georgia and South Ossetia.

On June 12, a group of Russian MPs [members of parliament], led by Sergey Yushenkov, and representatives of the New Russia party flew to Tskhinvali to check on the implementation of the cease-fire agreement. Upon their return they will inform the Russian parliament of the situation in Tskhinvali.

'Text' of Statement Issued

LD1206194392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1811 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Text] Moscow June 12 TASS—Follows the text of a Russian parliament statement on the situation in South Ossetia:

"The Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation (parliament) states that measures aimed at bringing about an end to hostilities in South Ossetia have not produced real results. The war in South Ossetia claims a toll of human lives every day and is threatening with a serious destabilisation of the situation in North Ossetia and throughout the Caucasus.

"The Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation calls for the agreement, signed by the leadership of Georgia and North Ossetia, on the cessation of hostilities to be observed by both sides undeviatingly. Armed groups that do not comply with the terms of this agreement should be regarded as criminal ones that should be treated in accordance with the norms of international and national law.

"The parliament of the Russian Federation endorses measures being taken by the president and Government of the Russian Federation with a view to protecting the civilian population, restoring the public order and settling the conflict.

"The Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation suggests that the joint commission with the participation of representatives from the Russian Federation, Georgia and South Ossetia begin its work towards coordinated actions to normalise the situation in South Ossetia.

"The Russian parliament instructs the Government of the Russian Federation to notify the U.N. Security Council, the governments of CIS countries and other states and the international public about measures to protect the civilian population and ensure the safety of the southern borders of the Russian Federation".

State of Emergency Approved

PM1506102792 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Jun 92 First Edition p 1

["Russian Federation Supreme Soviet Resolution on the State of Emergency in the North Ossetian Soviet Socialist Republic" signed by S.A. Filatov, first deputy chairman of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet, and dated 12 June 1992]

[Text] In connection with the North Ossetian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet's introduction of a state of emergency in the city of Vladikavkaz and in Alagirskiy, Mozdokskiy, Pravoberezhnyy, and Prigorodnyy Rayons, the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet resolves that:

1. The proposals by the Russian Federation Security Council on settling the situation in North Ossetia are to be accepted.

2. The North Ossetian SSR Supreme Soviet resolution on introducing a state of emergency in the city of Vladikavkaz and in Alagirskiy, Mozdokskiy, Pravoberezhnyy, and Prigorodnyy Rayons is to be approved.

3. The Russian Federation Government:

is to ensure the allocation of the funds and material-technical resources necessary for the implementation of measures used in the state of emergency;

is to liaise with North Ossetian SSR organs of state power in obtaining the troop contingents necessary to maintain public order and ensure other measures provided for by the RSFSR Law "On the State of Emergency."

[Signed] S.A. Filatov, first deputy chairman of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet

Russian House of Soviets, Moscow, 12 June 1992, No 2990-1.

Proceedings for 11 Jun Session Reviewed

LD1206091392

[Editorial Report] Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian at 2017 GMT on 11 June carries the 31-minute "At the Russian Supreme Soviet Session" program with a recorded account of proceedings at the 11 June session.

The unidentified narrator says that after approving the agenda the deputies set about debating the state program for the privatization of state and municipal enterprises in 1992.

At 2018 GMT Filatov is in the chair. He gives the floor to Vice Premier Shumeyko, who speaks of privatization as a key issue for the Russian Government. He describes the issue of shares and vouchers as a means of promoting privatization.

At 2021 GMT a deputy speaks in favor of the privatization program.

At 2025 GMT Deputy Ispravnikov urges that the program be adopted as a basis first and that the amendments be considered subsequently.

At 2029 GMT another deputy says that there is a need to guard against rampant and uncontrolled privatization.

At 2031 GMT a vote is taken on adoption of the privatization program as a basis. This is passed.

Then Deputy Tarasov takes the floor and says he is not against privatization as such but he raises objections to the specific form of the program under consideration today.

At 2034 GMT a further vote is taken and the program is adopted as a whole. Then a vote is taken on the draft decision on this subject. It is adopted as a basis.

At 2036 GMT The deputies go on to consider various draft amendments.

At 2043 GMT a vote is taken on draft decision as a whole and adopted.

At 2044 GMT Deputy Varov raises the question of recognizing 12 June as a holiday and the entitlement to pay for workers on the day.

At 2048 GMT the narrator rounds off the report by saying that there was then a closed session on the situation in North Ossetia. The session continues tomorrow.

Regional Affairs

Ossetian Refugees in Vladikavkaz Recieve Aid

LD1306221592 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1900 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] Three transport planes bringing medicine, medical equipment and tents for refugees arrived today from Moscow to Vladikavkaz. A hospital from the Zashchita emergency medical help center was also brought here. Elbrus Kargiyev, deputy chairman of the North Ossetian cabinet of ministers told ITAR-TASS that because of the critical situation in South Ossetia and the massive shelling of Tskhinvali, more than 200 wounded have already arrived in North Ossetia. During the last three days more than 2,000 refugees arrived in the republic. They are being temporarily housed in sanatoria, holiday hotels [dom otdykha] and educational institutions, which are all overcrowded by now.

North Ossetian Relief Task Force Set Up

LD1406161192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1415 GMT 14 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent Mikhail Shevtsov]

[Text] Vladikavkaz, 14 Jun—Today a relief task force of the state committee for civil defense affairs, states of emergency, and the elimination of the consequences of natural disasters under the president of Russia, headed by Yuriy Vorobyev, first deputy chairman of the committee, has begun work here. Last night a field hospital of the main directorate of medical, biological, and extraordinary problems of the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation and a medical company of one of the military units of Russian civil defense was set up near the Beslan airport.

The main purpose of the group is to provide practical assistance to the government of North Ossetia in dealing with the wounded and relocating refugees. Apart from that, the state committee has been instructed, in conjunction with the North Ossetian Government, to define the republic's requirements for medical equipment, gear, food, and finances for the near future.

All these actions are being implemented on the instructions of the North Ossetian Council of Ministers and with its involvement. In the next few days several tent camps will be deployed which will accomodate up to 5,000 refugees.

As Elbrus Karpiyev, deputy chairman of the North Ossetian Supreme Soviet and chairman of the republican commission for refugees, told an ITAR-TASS correspondent today, the number of refugees now totals about 130,000. The numbers fleeing from South Ossetia are not decreasing.

1,000 More Troops Sent to North Ossetia

PM1506102592 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Jun 92 First Edition p 3

[Unattributed report under the "Foreign Ministry Informs Us" rubric: "Situation Is Under Control"]

[Text] The crime situation in North Ossetia has gotten much worse of late. There have been cases of attacks on military depots, seizures of weapons and military hardware, and hostage-taking among servicemen and staffers from law-enforcement organs. In a number of cases such acts have resulted in casualties. A real risk of danger has developed both for the inhabitants of North Ossetia and for refugees from South Ossetia. Consequently the republic's Supreme Soviet has decided to prolong the state of emergency regime in the city of Vladikavkaz and its suburban areas, and also to introduce a state of emergency in the republic's Alagirskiy, Mozdokskiy, and Pravoberezhnyy Rayons. This decision was supported by the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet.

The manpower and resources of local internal affairs organs and an internal troops subunit stationed in Vladikavkaz were insufficient to guarantee the state of emergency regime. Therefore about 1,000 servicemen from the internal forces, together with the necessary hardware and weapons, have been dispatched to North Ossetia in accordance with the law.

The situation in the republic is under control.

S. Ossetian Leaders Accused of Weapons Seizure

OW1206180292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1457 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The prosecutor's office of North Ossetia is going to bring to trial five leaders of South Ossetia, deputy chairman of the South Ossetian Supreme Soviet Alan Chochiyev and the South Ossetian Prime Minister Oleg Teziyev are among them. They are accused of instigation to seize the army's depots in Vladikavkaz.

In his [as received] interview with "IF" [INTERFAX] they refuted these accusations of their participation in the seizure of depots saying it was a spontaneous action of the South Ossetian refugees caused by the wish to receive the arms for defending their territory from the aggressors. They qualified the attempt to seize the army's depots on Thursday [11 June] as a provocation on the side of the authorities in the result of which 3 people were killed and 6 wounded.

Yeltsin Breaks Schedule To View Food Supplies

LD1206141292 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1243 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Text] [Announcer] Today, Russian Independence Day, Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin decided to mark the first anniversary of his presidency by visiting a number of micro-rayons in the Russian capital, to have a look at new housing and facilities of social and everyday importance. Our correspondent Vladimir Korablev accompanied the president on his tour. He has just come in to the studio and I will pass over to him.

[Korablev] The Russian president began his visit to the micro- rayons in Moscow in a rather unusual way. The city's leadership, together with a large group of our own and foreign journalists, were waiting for him in the micro-rayon of Ramenki where, exactly a year ago, Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin spoke during his election campaign at the local culture and leisure center. But, contrary to our expectations, the president altered his preplanned route, since it had become known to him that the municipal authorities had made preparations for his visit in the spirit of the old days and, what's more, additional goods had been brought into the shops of the micro- rayon.

The Russian president set off right away for the Olympic Village. Here, in a rather categorical way, he told the

(?fathers) of the city that he would not be visiting the facilities prepared earlier, but would rather go where he was not expected.

At the Olympic Village the Russian president visited a number of shops. He showed interest in the food supplies to the inhabitants of the micro-rayon and other questions connected with the difficult day-to-day problems of the Muscovites.

And during the meeting the president had to listen to quite a number of complaints from the people. In the main, they spoke about the lack of order in their lives, about the increasing crime, corruption in trade and speculation in goods which are in short supply, and of course about the constantly increasing food prices. Here is an extract from this conversation with the people of the Olympic Village in the local supermarket.

[Begin recording] [Yeltsin] People are saying that here in the Olympic Village prices are higher than they are in the shops in Moscow. We shall speak with the Mayor, Yuriy Mikhaylovich [Luzhkov] now; he will examine this question.

[Luzhkov] In connection with the increase in milk and bread prices we shall now be increasing pensions by 100 rubles [R] [words indistinct]. Anyway, as much as we can.

[Yeltsin] [words indistinct] kopecks, for a liter of milk, well, that is quite enough for a month.

[Unidentified woman's voice is heard indistinctly complaining about price of sausages]

[Yeltsin] Right, the pension has been R100, but probably we shall be giving even more to the pensioners in July. [end recording]

[Announcer] That was an extract from a recording which my colleague Vladimir Korablev made today while accompanying Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin, the Russian president, during his trip around Moscow. I think that this recording will arouse certain emotions among you, I hope so.

Said 'Shocked' by Conditions

LD1206125292 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1100 GMT 12 Jun 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The Russian president today went out to meet people, but he did not come to the store he was expected to visit, where additional foodstuffs had been delivered, as has traditionally been the case on such occasions. The presidential motorcade went to the Olympic Village, and Boris Yeltsin had a meeting with Muscovites in a supermarket. His conversations dealt with extremely high prices, poverty, profiteering, and crime. It looked as if the president was shocked by what he saw and heard. At that point he put an end to his visit to this Moscow district.

Response to Yeltsin Yekaterinburg Visit Viewed

PM1206081992 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 10 Jun 92 p 2

[Report by V. Sanatin: "My Dear Fellow Countrymen...Yeltsin Promised Yekaterinburg 200 Million Rubles from His Own Fund"]

[Text] President Yeltsin's private visit to his birthplace brought no radical change to the life of Sverdlovsk Oblast. The president arrived without any publicity—he had to visit his mother, Klavdiya Vasilyevna, who had suffered a heart attack.

Nevertheless, Boris Nikolayevich did find time to meet with a narrow compass of people from the oblast and Yekaterinburg city administration. It was a Sunday. Journalists were not invited. However, it has been learned that the meeting was held in the traditional spirit: Petitions, requests for investment, complaints about the excessive burden imposed by financial shock therapy...

The president promised to help in the construction of the residential district near the Sverdlovsk station and marshalling yard, which has still not been restored since the catastrophic explosion occurred there in 1989. It was promised that 200 million rubles would be forthcoming from the Russian president's personal fund for this purpose....

Oblast pensioners will soon find their daily loaf of bread out of reach. In post office windows cards publicizing the Bank of Russia jostle alongside magic notices reading "No Money!" And when you do manage to obtain some cash and have squared what you owe for the apartment and your other debts plain and simple—there is no longer any bread left at the baker's. The stock of flour in Sverdlovsk Oblast constantly remains at the critical level of 2-3 days' supply.

The president promised to see to it that the oblast would get a supply of flour capable of lasting many days. But no agreement was reached on cash. It has been decreed that people must wait until July, when 5,000-ruble banknotes will be issued, and the underprivileged will have to tighten their belts to the last notch.

It is of course a pity that a meeting between the president and his fellow countrymen was not planned. And that the meeting held was with a purely administrative group. Pensioners would not have remained at home if there had been an open, face-to-face meeting. The whole area of the budget could have been brought into play, you see, followed up by the concerns of those who know how to make a living, but still remain without rubles. The city transport workers could have described how they have been let down over new vehicles. For the second year the oblast center has been unable to acquire a single new streetcar. While, on the other hand, the oblast administration acquired in one fell swoop 16 of the latest GAZ-31-29's—never before seen in the Urals.

The administrative circle said nothing, of course, about the witless stupidity behind many of the problems of the oblast and city. But, typically, the ordinary local people did not take offense at this. None of the ordinary petitioners sought Boris Nikolayevich out, followed him around, or bothered him at all. They did not crowd the streets carrying placards, nor deface monuments and fences...People remembered the main reason for the president's visit.

This secret, inner sense of insult has been gnawing away for over a year at the anguished conscience of the inhabitants of Sverdlovsk, who solidly supported both the person and the cause of Yeltsin at the elections. Here they have their own way of seeing and showing their feelings about and fervor for Yeltsin. It is difficult therefore to interpret the president's calm, clamor-free visit—was it down to the good manners and ethics of the people of the Urals, or was it the first sign of a loss of interest?

IZVESTIYA Interviews Moscow Mayor

PM1006085192 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Interview with Yu. Luzhkov, mayor of Moscow, by correspondent Viktor Belikov; in Moscow on 8 June: "Yu. Luzhkov: 'City Hall and Government of Moscow Continue To Fulfill Former Program'"—first paragraph is introduction]

[Text] As reported, Russian President B. Yeltsin has accepted G. Popov's resignation and entrusted Yu. Luzhkov with the duties of mayor of Moscow, appointing him head of the capital's administration. IZVESTIYA's correspondent talked with him on the morning of 8 June.

[Belikov] How unexpected was G. Popov's decision to quit the post of mayor?

[Luzhkov] It had been discussed several times in advance at the top Moscow level. There were two meetings with Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin. At the same time there was a detailed examination of the question of whether Gavriil Kharitonovich's departure would weaken the established structure of Moscow's management. I am sure that there would not even have been any question of his resignation if the president and Popov himself had had any misgivings on this score.

[Belikov] Did the continuing confrontation between City Hall and Moscow City Soviet influence G. Popov's intention to resign?

[Luzhkov] The main reasons for G. Popov's decision were set forth in his statement. His departure from the post of mayor certainly was not dictated by a "confrontation" with the corps of deputies—we have already grown accustomed to this. It is to be regretted that it is continuing, contrary to the expectations of Muscovites wishing for the consolidation and the pooling of the efforts of executive power and the people's elected representatives.

[Belikov] A year ago Muscovites approved the election platform on which Popov and you ran for the posts of leaders of the city administration. Then the government's program for 1992 emerged. Do these documents remain in force?

[Luzhkov] Entirely and fully. We will continue to fulfill them. The months that have elapsed since the formation of the city government have shown that a viable structure has been found for the management of the vast city's economy. Adjustments will be made to two or three systems for the leadership of city services. In particular, this will affect the department responsible for activity in the social sphere—health care, public education, culture.

The simplifying of the whole management structure will also be continued, and some cadre changes will be made. We will make every effort to strengthen administrative and municipal districts by delegating more rights and powers to them.

[Belikov] Who will head the city government after you?

[Luzhkov] We will deliberate as the entire cabinet and will ask the opinion of specialists who know Moscow's problems and its cadres.

International Affairs

Kravchuk Greets Yeltsin on Independence Day

LD1406090292 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 0000 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] In connection with the inauguration of 12th June as day of the adoption of the declaration on the state sovereignty of the Russian Federation, president of Ukraine, Leonid Kravchuk, sent greetings to the president of Russia, Boris Yeltsin.

It is stated in the greeting that Ukraine is with sincere sympathy following the efforts of the government of the Russian Federation and the people of Russia for building a modern flourishing democratic state.

Today Ukraine and Russia, reads the greeting, have entered upon an exceptionally important turning point in the stage of their development. History has granted us a unique possibility to lay a new foundation for cooperation between the two great Slavic nations, cooperation which is based on the principles of equality, partnership and mutual benefit, respect of sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-interference into the internal affairs of one another.

Ukraine is open for friendly and equal cooperation with Russia. Our peoples are united by traditional multicentury ties of friendship and invincible aspirations for freedom, independence and democracy. We should direct our joint efforts, singles out the greeting, to preserve everything good and valuable which makes up the pride of Ukrainian-Russian relations which can multiply joint achievements for the sake of peace and friendship of the two large neighbours.

Supreme Soviet Greets Earth Summit Participants

LD1106091692 Kiev UKRINFORM in Ukrainian 2302 GMT 5 Jun 92

[Text] To the UN World Conference on the Environment and Development:

The Ukrainian Supreme Soviet greets the participants at the UN World Conference on the Environment and Development. We are convinced that it is only on the basis of wide-ranging international cooperation that humankind will be able to solve the more and more difficult present and future problems of protecting the environment. Through joint efforts we will be able to save the world, strengthen mutual understanding and trust between peoples, and ensure the stable development of all countries.

Ukraine, as a sovereign and democratic state, aspires to solve the problems of protecting the environment in a new fashion. Taking into account international and national experience, a legislative basis new in principle is being formed and a long-term national ecological program is being elaborated. We received a difficult inheritance, however, after a long, predatory use of nature, the considerable contamination of the ground, water, and atmosphere, and the Chernobyl catastrophe. We are therefore counting on the support of the international community and the further development of mutually advantageous cooperation. Taking into account the global character of ecological processes, all the countries of the planet are interested in improving the health of the environment.

We wish the world conference participants fruitful results in their work.

[Signed] The Supreme Soviet of Ukraine
5 June 1992

Official Meets Italian Envoy, U.S. Businessmen

LD1206110992 Kiev UKRINFORM in Ukrainian 2302 GMT 5 Jun 92

[Text] Ukrainian Deputy Prime Minister O. Slepichev received Vittorio Claudio Surdo, extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador of the Italian Republic to Ukraine, at his request.

During the conversation which took place, the question was raised on directions for the use of credit issued to Ukraine by the Italian Government in accordance with the agreement reached during the visit to that country by Prime Minister V. Fokin. It was noted that $25 million will be used on humanitarian aid and training specialists in management, banking, etc.

O. Slepichev also met leaders of the International Commercial Fund of Food Producers (Houston, United States), which includes the prominent Western firms "Summit Ltd.," "Heinz," "Komagra" [as received], "PepsiCo," and others. The priorities for investment by American companies have been outlined: the production of children's food, improving the meat-processing industry on the basis of the most modern equipment and technology, and training specialists for the processing industry.

[Signed] Press Service of the Ukrainian prime minister

Durdynets, Drach Meet With U.S. Ambassador

AU1306140292 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1300 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Text] Yesterday, Vasyl Durdynets, first deputy chairman of Ukraine's Supreme Council, received Roman Popadyuk, U.S. ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Ukraine. During the meeting, he welcomed the ambassador in connection with his arrival in Ukraine on the honorary mission and wished him a happy stay in our land in the [word indistinct] interests of the peoples of the two countries.

Hopes were expressed during the friendly conversation that equal relations and cooperation in economy, trade, and other spheres will be established between Ukraine and the United States on a mutually advantageous basis.

It was, in particular, pointed out that the Ukrainian parliament has already created a legislative basis for guaranteeing investments of foreign capital in Ukraine's economy.

Also yesterday, U.S. Ambassador Roman Popadyuk met at the secretariat of Ukraine's People's Rukh [Movement for Perestroyka] with Ivan Drach, cochairman of Rukh. Ivan Drach informed the ambassador, in particular, about the tasks and plans of Rukh, the [word indistinct] situation in Ukraine, and also about the picketing of the Supreme Council that Rukh is planning to demand the resignation of Prime Minister Vitold Fokin.

Defense Minister Meets With U.S. Ambassador

LD1406145392 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 0000 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Text] Ukraine's defense minister, Colonel Geneneral Konstantin Morozov met with the U.S. ambassador in Ukraine, Roman Popadyuk, upon his request. Discussed were issues of military policy of Ukraine, problems related to the formation of the armed forces of the republic and social programs to support military servicemen.

The defense minister briefed the ambassador on the preparations done by Ukraine's Parliament to ratify the treaties on the reduction of conventional armaments and strategic nuclear weapons, on the course of negotiations with the Ministry of Defense of the Russian Federation touching upon the Black Sea Naval Fleet issue, on the drafting of Ukraine's citizens to the armed forces of the republic.

Both sides expressed mutual interest in establishing relations between the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine and the Ministry [as heard] of Defense of the United States of America.

German Economic Cooperation Delegation Arrives

LD1406204892 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 1856 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] A government delegation from Germany arrived in Kiev today headed by Mrs. Michaela Geiger, parliamentary secretary of state at the Ministry for Economic Cooperation. The agenda for the four-day stay envisages meetings with leaders of a number of Ukraine's ministries and departments and heads of permanent commissions of the Supreme Soviet.

As reported by Ukraine's Economics Ministry, the main aim of the visit of the German delegation, which includes representatives of several German economic funds, is to discuss possibilities for setting up a technical assistance fund in Ukraine. This fund envisages help for Ukraine by using the results of the latest research by German specialists and direct participation by specialists in developing various programs. The technical assistance fund also has the task of helping to create organizational prerequisites for Ukraine to transfer to the sphere of market relations, as well as legislative, economic, and social prerequisites.

German Official Promises Support

LD1306202492 Berlin ADN in German 1804 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Text] Kiev (ADN)—Germany will support Ukraine in the implementation of recently started reforms toward a market economy. Michaela Geiger, parliamentary state secretary at the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation, affirmed this in Kiev today in a talk with Volodymyr Lanovyy, the Ukrainian economics minister and vice premier. Mrs. Geiger announced the federal government's decision to set up a fund for training Ukrainian industrial managers. So far 1.5 million German marks has been made available for this. Lanovyy stressed the Ukrainian leadership's determination to implement economic reform despite all problems. In this process the leadership also counted on the help of Western industrialized states. According to Lanovyy, the greatest difficulties lie with the privatization of property and the demonopolization of production.

State Secretary Geiger has been in Kiev since Wednesday [10 June]. During her three-day visit she held talks at the ministries for economy, mechanical engineering and for the environment, as well as the Ministry for Defense Industry and Conversion and others. Mrs. Geiger was also received by economic experts of the Ukrainian parliament.

Ambassador to Austria Presents Credentials

AU1206140092 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1400 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Text] It is necessary to open the embassy, resolve questions of its financing, and look for an appropriate location. This is how Yuriy Kostenko, Ukraine's ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Austria, has outlined his (?immediate tasks).

Yesterday he presented credentials to Austrian President Kurt Waldheim.

National Affairs

Minister Issues Order on Transferring Officers

LD1306133892 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1000 GMT 13 Jun 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Ukrainian Defense Minister Konstantin Morozov has issued an order on transferring 6,000 Army and Air Force officers out of Ukraine because they refused to swear an oath to the new government in Kiev. Morozov stated that the officers can leave Ukraine with military subunits and the cost of moving their families will be paid in full.

Officers Refuse To Take Oath

LD1306123892 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 2100 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Text] Nine thousand and five hundred officers and generals will not be taking an oath of allegiance to Ukraine. Of them, 3,500 voluntarily left the service and settled in Ukraine and 6,000 have not yet left the ranks of the Ukrainian Army. This was announced by the chief of the Personnel Department of the armed forces of Ukraine, Major-General (?Oleksandr Ignatenko).

In an interview for the newspaper NARODNAYA ARMIYA [as heard] he said that a decree is being prepared on the transfer of officers not taking an oath of allegiance to corresponding military districts of their choice. (?Oleksandr Ignatenko) singled out that this transfer is being done according to their wishes.

Information on Stolen Aircraft Not Confirmed

AU1106154992 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1300 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Text] The Press Service of Ukraine's Ministry of Defense has not confirmed the information issued by the independent agency VISNYK on the fate of the military aircraft stolen from the air field near the town of Starokonstantynov in Khmelnytskyy Oblast. The agency made an assumption, with reference to unspecified military sources, about a possible transfer of the aircraft to the Russian military contingent in Poland. Specialists allegedly expressed doubt as to whether they may be used for flights because they were taken out of Ukraine without any technical specifications.

Long-Range Aviation Force Inaugurated

PM1106133992 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Untitled Sergey Tsikora report]

[Text] Henceforth Ukraine will have its own long-range aviation. The republic's Defense Ministry has reported that the formation of its staff and air group command structures has already been completed.

This new subdivision of the Ukrainian Army has been created in accordance with a presidential decree and a defense minister order. It includes all long-range aviation regiments deployed on the republic's territory.

The 46-year-old Lieutenant General V. Vasilyev, who is a graduate of the Yu. Gagarin Air Academy and the General Staff Academy and served in Afghanistan, has been appointed commander of the Air Force. Before being appointed Ukrainian Air Force commander V. Vasilyev headed one of the most powerful air force combined units—the Vinnitsa Air Army.

Republic To Continue Producing Nuclear Power

LD1206225292 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Text] Participants of yesterday's meeting between Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk and representatives of the Nuclear Power Complex of the Republic reached the conclusion that there is no alternative to nuclear energy, so Ukraine will continue to develop it but on the basis of new technology, better reliability, and safety.

Decision on Assistance to Crimea Adopted

LD1306165292 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 1035 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Text] A decision has been adopted by Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers to render financial assistance to the Crimea. In particular the Council of Ministers of that republic has been appropriated 7 billion rubles for financing undertakings to stabilize the economy of the peninsula within the framework of the transition to market and liberalization of prices. Also appropriated will be 5,800,000 rubles for the building of a children's hospital in the town of Yalta.

Changes to Autonomous Status of Crimea Viewed

LD1306193292 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] Meetings of the joint working group of the Supreme Soviet of Ukraine and the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Crimea have taken place. Proposals on introducing changes and additions to the law on the status of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea which was adopted by the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet were examined during the meetings. Participants of the meetings expressed mutual trust and respect for positions of the sides, and the desire to continue the dialogue which started in Yalta.

All-Crimean Referendum To Go Ahead 2 Aug

LD1406012892 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0000 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Text] The Crimean Supreme Soviet on 13 June discussed the demarcation of powers between Ukraine and Crimea, Crimean citizenship, and control over customs and the financial and banking systems in the autonomous Republic. NEGA reports that the all-Crimean referendum scheduled for 2 August must now take place because the peninsula's parliament did not manage to reconsider this question by 10 June.

Crimean Tatar Head Against Picketing Parliament

LD1106084992 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainain 1900 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] Mustafa Dzhanilev, head of the Majlis of Crimean Tatar people, stated on behalf of the national organization that they do not support the picketing by the

Republican Movement of Crimea of the Supreme Soviet in Simferopol. We believe that such an action can lead to a still worse confrontation and split on the peninsular, emphasized the leader of the Crimean Tatar national movement.

Regulated Prices Reported in Effect 11 Jun

LD1306043792 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Text] Free prices are being introduced on milk and dairy products on 11 June, and vodka and spirits will cost 2.5 times more, according to a Ukrainian cabinet of ministers resolution on introducing changes to regulated prices. Funds received into the state budget from 10 June to the end of the year will be directed specifically toward monthly payments for the least secured strata of the population for the purpose of acquiring food. Restrictions on levels of trade surcharges on goods that are sold by commercialized trade enterprises at free prices are also being abolished.

Government Bidding To Reduce Internal Debt

OW1406154192 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1353 GMT 14 Jun 92

[From the 15 June "Business Report"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Starting on Monday [15 June], Ukraine will begin to liquidate internal debts between Ukrainian enterprises and organizations and other CIS states. Mutual debts which enterprises cannot pay off by the end of June will be liquidated. The total amount of unpaid Ukrainian debts to their CIS partners as of the end of May had reached 546 bn [billion] rubles. Ukraine's internal debt at this point was over 800 bn rubles.

The republican budget spent 8.3 bn more rubles than it received in revenues in the first quarter alone. More than one third of revenues come from the value added tax which does not stimulate enterprises to expand production. Ukrainian enterprises, however, need to get new credits to purchase raw materials and equipment, mostly from Russia. This makes local observers skeptical of whether the effects of debt cancellation will be felt at all.

Financial experts think that this operation will not significantly soften the blows the economy has taken from uncoordinated price liberalization and the breakdown of business ties. Even according to official forecasts, a further drop in the economy and a weakening of the financial situation in the republic are considered to be unavoidable.

Nationalists Appeal For Withdrawal From CIS

LD1106135892 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 1036 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Text] A conference on Ukrainian nationalists of the Podillya area has taken place in the city of Ternopol. Besides the hosts, taking part were representatives of (?Khmelnytskyy) and Vinnitsa regions. An appeal was adopted at the conference to the Supreme Soviet of Ukraine and Ukraine's President Leonid Kravchuk demanding the withdrawal of Ukraine from the Commonwealth of Independent States, the establishment of reliable borders, return to the homeland of all Ukrainian servicemen, and revival of the good name of the organization of Ukrainian nationalists and the Ukrainian insurgent Army.

Meeting Protests Supreme Soviet Actions

LD1406210692 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1750 GMT 12 Jun 92

[By UKRINFORM correspondent Vladimir Yurkevich for TASS]

[Text] Donetsk, 12 Jun—Extreme alarm over the fate of the Donbass was expressed today by the participants of a large meeting in the central square of Donetsk. Representatives of the labor kollektivs protested strongly against the actions of the Supreme Soviet and Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, which have given rise to new economic and social problems.

The participants in the meeting noted that the region's industrial might, which in the past was its pride, had today become a huge disaster in the conditions created by the pseudopolicy of economic reform. The disruption of economic ties with the states of the Commonwealth had caused the greatest loss to Donetsk Oblast. Repeated appeals, demands, and protests over these problems to the leadership of the republic are not heeded or supported.

The participants of the meeting "Donbass in Peril" passed a resolution. They demanded a stop to the collapse of the state economy, and "free zone of joint entrepreneurship" and "ecological disaster zone" status for the Donbass. They urged that precise programs for economic development and social protection of the population be drawn up and promulgated in Ukraine.

New Passports Expected Within 6 Years

AU1106153892 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1330 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Text] A variant of a new Ukrainian passport has been submitted to the Supreme Council for consideration. This was told to HOLOS UKRAYINY by Valentyn Nedryhaylo, major general of the militia and deputy minister of internal affairs. After discussing and approving the final variant of the form, its design will be elaborated and put into production.

In view of the fact that this work may take 6 years, the deputy minister said that Ukraine's Ministry of Internal Affairs has started introducing changes, with the help of special stamps, into passports of Soviet design.

According to Valentyn Nedryhaylo, the Ministry of Internal Affairs is ready to complete introducing changes within a short period of time.

Byelarus

Kebich Hopes For Preservation of CIS

*OW1206200292 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1525 GMT 12 Jun 92*

[Prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin and edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"—transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Byelarusian prime minister Vyacheslav Kebich told reporters in Minsk that as the head of government of the republic which is the seat of CIS headquarters he would do his utmost to prevent the break up of the Commonwealth. Although he complained about differences between the former Soviet republics and the trend away from the center, Kebich said there was nothing to preclude CIS countries from staying independent and yet having good relations and helping each other economically within the entity. And he pointed as an example to European states now seeking integration.

The prime minister who likened the relations between the former Soviet republics to those between the Siamese twins not ready for separation called on their leaders to try to preserve the Commonwealth. However, he also admitted the possibility of some of its members leaving the organization but warned against panicking or making tragedy about it.

Kebich also said his government would work out guidelines for bilateral relations with all CIS republics and that Byelarus and Russia were expected to sign a comprehensive bilateral agreement at the meeting of CIS heads of government in Minsk on June 26. And he spoke of being optimistic about the future of the Commonwealth and his republic's relations with Russia.

Interior Ministry's Anticrime Measures Backed

*OW1206200492 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1525 GMT 12 Jun 92*

[Prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin and edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"—transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Interior Minister Vladimir Yegorov sent a package of proposals to the prime minister on Friday [12 June] on ways of combatting the current wave of crimes perpetrated by nationals of the Transcaucasian states. Sources close to the prime minister's office told IF [INTERFAX] that government and ministry experts had now arrived at a conclusion that people of Transcaucasian descent arrived in the republic to strike all manner of illicit deals, many of which related to exports of consumer goods. The interior ministry says up to 10 tonnes of such cargoes are flown out of Minsk-2 airport daily.

IF note: As many as nine airliners from Transcaucasia arrive at Minsk-2 airport every week, and officials counts say 98% of the passengers are on shuttle flights to and from Minsk. The city police raided the airport early in February to check the identity of more than 1,000 Transcaucasians detaining more than 200 of them who committed crime, and 125 of them were wanted by police. Large amounts of weapons were also seized.

Sources close to the prime minister said Kebich had promised to consider the minister's proposals at the next meeting by senior cabinet members.

Three Political Parties Form Coalition

*LD1306155992 Moscow Mayak Radio Network
in Russian 0400 GMT 13 Jun 92*

[Text] New parties and movements continue to be formed in Byelarus. Representatives of three parties—the National Democratic Party, the Peasants Party, and the Christian Democratic Party—have formed a coalition. Representatives of this coalition have held a second working meeting. They discussed a number of joint measures. One of these is the holding of a congress of landless peasants. It is expected to be held at the end of this month. Representatives of the coalition protested at the registration of the Byelarusian Communist Party by the Byelarusian Justice Ministry.

Moldova

Prime Minister on Shaping of New Government

*OW1206184692 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1457 GMT 12 Jun 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Moldovan Prime Minister Valeriu Muravschi believes that Moldova needs a government of national unity. "It must consist of professionals, however," he told national radio on Friday [12 June].

On June 9, the Moldovan government led by Muravschi, announced its resignation. The resignation was opposed by Minister of National Security Anatol Plugaru, Defence Minister Ion Costas, Interior Minister Konstantin Antoch and Minister for Culture and Cults Ion Unguranu. The government's resignation was not accepted.

Valeriu Muravschi hopes he would be asked to shape a new cabinet. He will do so, however, on the condition that he "shapes the government jointly with president Snegur and that the parliament supports the market programme which the government will submit for discussion to the forthcoming parliamentary session.

Snegur Hopes For Part of CIS Army Equipment

*AU1206185792 Bucharest Radio Romania Network
in Romanian 1700 GMT 12 Jun 92*

[Septimiu Roman report from Chisinau]

[Excerpts] The first meeting of the joint parliamentary commission for peaceful settlement of the conflict in the eastern rayons of the Republic of Moldova started today at Katchenko culture palace in Tighina. [passage omitted]

Mr. Mircea Snegur, president of the Republic of Moldova, granted an interview today to Mrs. Alexandra (?Conkova), a correspondent of the Czech and Slovak press agency, and to Jiri (?Doubrava), reporter of the newspaper [name indistinct] published in that country, during which an extensive examination of the current situation in the eastern rayons of the republic was made.

President Snegur highlighted that the alleged decentralization—a term used by separatists to justify the federalization of the Republic of Moldova—is nothing but a trick, an obvious attempt to bureaucratize [as heard] the legal structures of the state. Decentralization will be done indeed, but we will man local state power functions with people who will be elected in towns and villages and who will strictly keep them under control, Mr. Snegur added. This would be in accordance with the territorial and administrative reform, which will be worked out during the current parliament session by considering the specific character of certain localities in Moldova and which will be similar to other such models in certain European states, Mr. Mircea Snegur also said.

Mr. Snegur assessed that part of the military equipment of the CIS 14th Army will be obtained by the Republic of Moldova in accordance with European agreements regarding conventional weapons, and not by the separatists, as some people wish. If Russia were really a democratic state, it would not tolerate the arming of the people who initiated the hostility, Mr. Snegur said. The officers of the 14th Army will be given the option to enroll in the national army of Moldova under contract, or to find themselves other jobs if they wish. Mr. Mircea Snegur mentioned that he will talk all those issues over with Boris Yeltsin, president of the Russian Federation, during an official meeting.

Officials Agree on Cease-Fire Mechanism

LD1306120992 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1000 GMT 13 Jun 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] At a meeting in Bendery yesterday representatives of military observers from four countries, heads of local bodies of authority, and members of a parliamentary commission agreed to create a three-stage mechanism to monitor the cease-fire and the withdrawal of armed formations. One of the observer groups began its work in the evening. In the opinion of the deputy chairman of the Moldovan parliament, if everything proceeds as planned, we will succeed in creating a system in the conflict zone to prevent the possibility of renewed shooting and military actions by 16 June.

Deputies Visit Dniester To Observe Cease-Fire

LD1306145792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1357 GMT 13 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Fedor Angeliy]

[Text] Chisinau, June 13 TASS—Members of the Mixed Commission of Moldovan People's Deputies and representatives of conflict-involved armed units left for Dniester hotbeds this morning to control the observation of the cease-fire agreement and elaborate a mechanism to separate the conflicting sides.

Chairmen of city, regional and village councils of the region and military observers from Moldova, Russia, Romania and Ukraine are helping the commission. The commander of the 14th Russian Army has expressed the readiness to assist the deputies in carrying out the noble mission.

The deputies are searching for efficient ways to restore peace on the Dniester banks and preserve the Moldovan territorial integrity.

The restoration of functioning of the legitimate power bodies on the left bank and disarmament of militarized units in the area not subordinated to either conflicting side are the most complicated and painful issues.

Dubossary Council Supports Cease-Fire Agreement

LD1306222192 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1900 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] Yesterday the joint commission on the settlement of the Dniester conflict continued its work in Chisinau. It was set up by the Moldovan parliament with the participation of Dniester deputies. Gennadiy Varfolomeyev reports:

[Varfolomeyev] The joint commission has sent groups to monitor the cease-fire and the withdrawal of armed formations in towns and villages in the conflict zone on both banks of the Dniester. One group arrived in Dubossary, inspected the dam and proposed to assemble the deputies in order to examine the question of restoring the functioning of the Dubossary power station.

According to Vladislav Fenagin, chairman of the Dubossary city council, today, 13 June, the Dubossary executive committee held a meeting. Several routine questions were discussed, including the resolution by the Moldovan parliament on the settlement of the conflict. It was decided to follow the agreement on a cease-fire to the letter.

As for other questions related to the settlement of the conflict and the work of the observation group, the Dubossary executive committee will only follow decisions made by the Dniester Supreme Soviet.

Commission Drafts Accords on Settling Conflict

AU1406193792 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 1900 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Text] During today's meeting of the Joint Parliamentary Commission in Chisinau, the sides worked out a draft agreement on the basic principles of a peaceful settlement of the armed conflict in the eastern rayons of the Republic of Moldova.

Our special correspondent informed us that the commission members also worked out a draft resolution on concrete steps to be taken in accordance with the 11 June parliamentary decision on supervising the observation of the cease-fire and the disengagement of the sides involved in the conflict. To this end, a command will be set up at the Joint Central Commission, which will have access to all points in the conflict area. Observation and control posts will be established in Cocieri, Corjova, Rohi, Molovata, Zolercani, Dorotskoye, Gura Bicului, the Dubossary hydropower station, and other points in the conflict area, with a view to supervising the cease-fire and the withdrawal of the armed forces.

Moldova's Government asked that the troops and hardware of the 14th Army be placed under its subordination and demanded that this Army preserve its neutrality until an accord to this extent is concluded with the Russian Federation.

Government To Finalize Cease-Fire Agreement

OW1506115592 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1113 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The session of a mixed commission in Bendery held this Monday [15 June] is planning to finalize the wording of a cease-fire agreement which is intended to put an end to the armed confrontation in the Dniester region, disengage the warring formations of the Moldovian police and Dniester guardsmen, and return them to the places of their permanent location. This document will be presented to Moldova's parliament for approval this Tuesday [16 June].

Moldova's presidential state adviser on national security and military issues Nicolae Kirtoake informs INTERFAX that the mixed commission has set up a headquarters comprising the commanders of the belligerent factions. In the words of Mr. Kirtoake, the headquarters has been advised to deploy a network of observation posts throughout the conflict zone. The observation posts will be manned by deputies of various levels and representatives of the armed formations.

The mechanism of disengagement of the opposing forces envisages: at stage one, the formations in immediate contact with each other will be set apart, the roads de-mined and unblocked; at stage two, the formations will be taken to the places of their permanent locations, leaving in the zone of conflict a specified number of policemen and guardsmen to monitor the observance of the terms of the agreement.

The state adviser also maintains that the Sunday [14 June] [as received] session of the mixed commission is also addressing the proposal to place the Russian 14th Army stationed in the Dniester region under the jurisdiction of Moldova with its subsequent integration into Moldova's armed forces following a political settlement of the armed conflict. In the words of Mr. Kirtoake, this would facilitate the solution of social problems facing the service members of the 14th Army.

Parliament Reaches 'Compromises' on Dniester

PM1506095792 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 1

[Report by Svetlana Gamova: "Dniester Region could Receive Legal Status"]

[Text] Chisinau—The Moldovan parliament seems to be ready for compromises in the solution of the problems of the Left Bank, or to be more precise the Eastern regions of Moldova. This was the formulation which the the deputies agreed to use, citing the fact that the Dniester conflict long ago crossed the border along the Dniester.

The situation regarding the legal status of the Dniester region, even with the stipulation "with a view to preserving the integrity of the Republic of Moldova," perhaps suited all those who voted for it. The Left Bank deputies, who repeatedly stressed that the Dniester region has absolutely no interest in splitting Moldova, are satisfied that the republic's parliament has nonetheless considered the specific features of the region and guaranteed the observance of the rights of the national minorities living here. The drafts of the legal acts enshrining these promises should be submitted to the relevant parliamentary commissions by 20 June.

Agreement was also successfully reached on the separation of the armed forces. A special created commission, which has also been joined by deputies from the Left Bank, will decide exactly how this should proceed. The deadline for the separation has been set—16 June.

The separation of the troops, the imparting of special status to the Eastern regions, and the creation of conditions for the functioning of legal organs of power here—that is the peace formula proposed by the parliament to the population of Moldova. Its effectiveness will depend basically on how consistently the principles which have been elaborated are implemented.

Moldovan Foreign Minister on Dniester Region

PM1506104692 Paris LE MONDE in French 14-15 Jun 92 p 4

[Interview with Moldovan Foreign Minister Nicolae Tiu by Jean-Baptiste Naudet by telephone from Bucharest on 12 June]

[Text] Bucharest—[Naudet] Mr. Kozyrev has proposed "separate political and legal status, at present within Moldova," for the Dniester region, and thinks that "there could be various solutions later." What do you think of that?

[Tiu] Mr. Kozyrev's positions are no surprise to me. It is the confirmation of a consistent policy followed by Moscow political circles—and now by the Russian Federation Government—of brutal interference in the internal affairs of Moldova, a sovereign and independent state. Disregarding the facts, Mr. Kozyrev is giving us lessons in history and politics and in addition is venturing to draw up a "solution" several days before the session of the Moldovan parliament which is to debate this question.... He is giving clear instructions to the leaders of Tiraspol ("capital" of the self-proclaimed Russian-speaking republic of Dniester—LE MONDE editor's note)

[Naudet] Why are you opposed to the Dniester region one day becoming Russian?

[Tiu] Mr. Kozyrev talks of history, but he forgets to say that the Tsarist Russian troops only arrived on the left bank of the Dniester in 1972. He talks of population, disregarding the fact that the Moldovans, who make up 40 percent of the population of the left bank of the Dniester, are the largest ethnic group, despite the policy of enforced denationalization and genocide pursued by the Russian and then Soviet empires. And that the Russians account for 23 percent of the population, occupying third place after the Ukrainians who make up 28 percent!

[Naudet] But are not Russian-speakers in a majority?

[Tiu] There is no such nationality as "Russian-speaking!"

[Naudet] The parliament failed to find a solution to the Dniester region's status on Thursday. Why?

[Tiu] Before discussing its status, there must be a ceasefire, and the forces must be pulled out. I would like to stress that the question of the Dniester region's autonomy is not a question of international law but of internal law. And then, to whom do we give autonomy—to the 40 percent of Moldovans or to the 23 percent of Russians?

[Naudet] What status do you envisage for the southern region populated by the Gagauz?

[Tiu] A form of administration will be debated in parliament in a few days time in the framework of territorial and administrative reform.

Separatists Fire on Defenders of Cocieri Bridge

AU1306183792 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1705 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] Chisinau ROMPRES, 13/6/1992—According to a communique of the press centre of the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Moldova, relayed by MOLDOVA PRES, Saturday, June 13, at 1410 hours local time, the separatist forces fired at the positions of the defenders of Cocieri bridge. A broad daylight attack like this has not been reported for long. The front line fighters who were attacked say it was the Cossacks who did not observe the ceasefire. Despite a ceasefire decision, the Cossacks reinforced their positions. They made use of a digger only 50 metres far from the positions of the Moldovan forces. Like many times before, neither this time did the defenders opened fire in retaliation, mentions the communique.

Overnight Fighting Around Dubossary Detailed

LD1406115192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1110 GMT 14 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[Text] Chisinau, 14 Jun—Firing has continued in the left bank regions of Moldova over the last 24 hours. The Moldovan Defense Ministry press service has stated that guards and Cossacks from the Dniester region fired automatic weapons at the positions of police and volunteers in the villages of Cocieri and Korzhevo in Dubossary Rayon several times during the night.

Firing was also heard in the town of Bendery. Here, according to military observers, a passing car fired at a police post. The gunman then abandoned the car and hid.

According to the Dniester region press center, Dubossary Rayon was the scene of spontaneous shooting. Field commanders from both sides, however, managed to stop the fire through telephone talks.

In the village of Parkany, near the town of Bendery, an unknown person shot at a military truck from a car. A Dniester region irregular was wounded in the effort to detain the gunmen.

National Troops To Replace CIS Border Guards

PM1506105592 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Svetlana Gamova report: "Moldova Starts Forming Its Own Border Troops"]

[Text] Chisinau—Moldova's borders will now be protected by Moldova's own border troops.

"An extremely complex situation has formed on the border; units of the border troops under the command of the CIS Border Troops High Command are not carrying out the tasks required of them. Discipline has gotten slack, cases of desertion have become more frequent, and the scale of smuggling has increased," a decree issued by Moldovan President M. Snegur notes. Describing the situation as a crisis, he instructed the Moldovan Ministry of National Security to assume command of the border troops and start forming national border units.

Officers and warrant officers who refused to serve in Moldova will be banned from carrying out their official duties. At the same time reservists from the old border guards will be drafted into the border troops, and some of these will serve on a contract basis. The property of the border posts will be transferred to the Moldovan Ministry of National Security. From now on people will have to pay to cross the Moldovan border.

'Terrorist' Claims Government Supplied Weapons

OW1206190192 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1457 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Member of Moldova's Christian-Democratic Popular Front Vladimir Garbuz, arrested in Moldova for charges of terrorism admitted that he was involved in terrorist activity on the Left Bank of the Dniester. This activity was carried out by several groups with the common name "Buzhor", and was directly monitored by Moldova's Ministry of National Defence which supplied the terrorists with weapons, ammunition and explosives.

He said that this terrorist group was ordered to blast the most important economic facilities in Tiraspol. To carry this plan through, several hundred units of small arms, grenades, anti-tank mines and Romanian sniper rifles had been sent to the region. Two tonnes of explosives arrived from Romania to be used for blasting the headquarters of the Dniester leadership.

"Such a sharp switch from political struggle to terrorism will result in numerous fatalities and this makes me change my position," said the terrorist.

Kazakhstan

Commonwealth Residents Considered Foreigners

LD1306191392 Moscow POSTFACTUM in English 1520 GMT 12 Jun 92

[From the "Politics" section]

[Text] Alma-Ata—Under a bill drafted in Kazakhstan's legislature, residents of the Commonwealth member-countries will be treated as foreigners in the republic.

Representatives of Kazakhstan's Supreme Soviet also told PF [POSTFACTUM] that under the draft law on the legal status of foreigners in the Republic of Kazakhstan, foreigners residing in Kazakhstan permanently can engage in any labour or economic activity which is not banned by the law. Foreigners can occupy all posts in public service with the exception of the elected positions which require the citizenship of the Republic of Kazakhstan. Foreigners cannot elect and be elected to representative power bodies and also cannot take part in referendums.

According to the bill, foreigners can be detained or arrested only in exceptional cases: If they try to cross the border of Kazakhstan illegally, if they are found to have crossed the border illegally, if they perpetrate a crime or break the law, for which, under the republic's laws, they can be detained or arrested.

New Movement Wants Military To Return Pastures

LD1506031692 Alma-Ata Kazakh Radio Network in Russian 1400 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] Naryn, a new public movement, was set up in Uralsk Oblast to push for the military to return the vast territory and rich pastures of Naryn-Peski to the indigenous population. Great harm was done to the land during the many years it was used for training. Members of the public movement will make every effort to recultivate the land so that it can be used by republican farmers.

Oil Extraction Damages Mangyshlak Area Land

LD1506040492 Alma-Ata Kazakh Radio Network in Russian 1400 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Summary] Published figures indicate that oil extraction has severely damaged more than 1,500,000 hectares of Mangyshlak Peninsula land. A total of 66,000 hectares of soil on the Mangyshlak oil production association's property has been destroyed, totally destroyed in some places.

Minister Suleymenov Receives Indian Delegation

LD1406081392 Alma-Ata Kazakh Radio Network in English 2030 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Text] On 11th June, the Kazakhstan foreign affairs minister, Mr. Suleymenov, received a delegation from the Indian Foreign Affairs Ministry headed by its chief, [name indistinct]. The two sides have exchanged their opinions on the perspective of Kazakh-Indian relations, issues on the realization of the agreements which were signed by President Nazarbeyev during his official visit to India [words indistinct].

The Indian delegation also had a meeting with the head of the Alma-Ata administration board Mr. Nurkadilov. The Alma-Ata Mayor [name indistinct] and the Indian Ambassador to Kazakhstan, Mr. (?Kamliz Samir) have considered the issue on opening of the Indian Embassy in Alma-Ata and on the establishment of the cooperation between Alma-Ata and Delhi.

Kyrgyzstan

New Group Formed To Promote Peace, Cooperation

OW1206213192 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1525 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin and edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"—transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The adviser of President Askar Akayev on humanitarian issues Beksultan Zliakiyev heads "Open Association of Development—Kyrgyzstan" the main aim of which is to promote international peace and cooperation in the republic.

The programme of this new social non-governmental organization envisages stabilizing the political and economic situation in the republic, security of human rights irrespective of the nationality, assistance in development of the industrial and intellectual potential of Kyrgyzstan, and actual implementation of programmes on economic, cultural, and humanitarian cooperation.

The association's appeal to all residents of Kyrgyzstan expresses concern as the existing political parties, movements and groups defending mainly only one nationality, lay to the ground of their activity contradictions which any moment may lead to confrontation.

The Open Association of Development "Kyrgyzstan" is established by the republican fund of humanitarian initiatives, and by several huge industrial enterprises of Bishkek.

Tajikistan

Nabiyev Rejects Claims of Violating Protocol

LD1406052792 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0400 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Text] Tajik President Rakhman Nabiyev has resolutely rejected political opponents' accusations that he has been violating the May protocol between the republic's leadership and the leaders of the former opposition. He also rejected their suggestions that he attempted to enter into a secret conspiracy with antidemocratic forces in the republic. This is stated in a special declaration issued by the president's press center. The president said that the official protest was motivated by the statement broadcast on Tajik People's TV the other day by the headquarters of the republic's united democratic forces in which it was alleged that reports available to democratic public opinion said that President Nabiyev had held several secret meetings with former Vice President Dustov; Kendzhayev, the former parliament speaker; and Khuvaydullayev, who continues in the post of Procurator General despite the May agreement. President Rakhman Nabiyev described the claims that he had been in touch with these people as outright lies. He accused the headquarters leadership of putting out slander and circulating provocative rumors. This certainly does not promote political stability in Tajikistan, he said.

Decree Creates Tajikistan National Guard

LD1206155292 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 1000 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Text] Decree by the president of Tajikistan on the formation of the National Guard of the Republic of Tajikistan:

1) The National Guard of the Republic of Tajikistan is to be formed.

2) The republic's Defense Committee should prepare the regulation concerning the organization, mobilization, and service in the National Guard of the Republic of Tajikistan on a contract basis from among the male residents of the republic and should propose it to the Cabinet of Ministers.

3) The Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Tajikistan should adopt measures for [word indistinct], material, and technical provisions of the republic's National Guard.

4) The Defense Committee of the Republic of Tajikistan should nominate the head of the National Guard of Tajikistan for approval by the president.

[Signed] Nabiyev, the president of Tajikistan.

Niazov Claim Over Arms Distribution Denied

LD1206154792 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 1000 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Text] Statement by the Tajikistan Supreme Soviet Presidium:

On 9 June Major General Niazov stated over the national television that arms were allegedly being distributed to members of the national guard at the decision of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Tajikistan and its presidium. The presidium of the republic's Supreme Soviet states that these remarks by Major General Niazov does not correspond to reality.

Joint Session Views Current Situation

LD1206200392 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 1700 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Excerpts] A joint session of the Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Cabinet of Ministers Presidium of the Republic of Tajikistan was held on 10 June. In discussing the main agenda item, no participant of the session and invited leaders from a number of ministries and departments, officials of law enforcement bodies, and officers hesitated to stress the still complicated situation in the republic. Everyone was concerned about the following issues: Will peace and tranquillity return to Tajikistan? Will the national state and the territorial integrity of Tajikistan remain intact? Will all political forces struggle in a united front to salvage the republic from the gravest political and economic crises it faces?

Internal Affairs Minister Navdzhuvanov and National Security Committee Chairman Salehboyev presented reports and stressed that measures taken by the government of national reconciliation including the law enforcement bodies are not bearing satisfactory results. The situation in some regions and in particular in Kulyab and Kurgan-Tuybe oblasts is still critical. [passage omitted]

The session, which continued for more than seven hours, indicated that the people expect more resolute measures from the president, the Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the government to speedily normalize the political situation in the republic. It was stressed that during these difficult days, political stands and actions should be evaluated only from the view that whether this or that position will serve the interests of maintaining the national state, the territorial integrity, and unity of the people of Tajikistan. It is the duty first and foremost of everyone who holds dear our homeland—the land whose name is the Republic of Tajikistan.

Sociopolitical Situation Discussed at Meeting

LD1406212992 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 1700 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] This afternoon a meeting took place at the Ministry for Internal Affairs between Davlat Usmon, deputy prime minister of the Republic of Tajikistan, and Alidzhon Salekhbayev, chairman of the Committee for National Security of Tajikistan, and representatives from the law and order department, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and the Committee for National Security. Questions related to the normalization of the sociopolitical situation in the republic were examined.

When reporters from the Voice and Vision of the Republic of Tajikistan went there they were not allowed to report on the progress of the meeting. Only a radio reporter was permitted to report on the holding of this meeting. We do not understand why journalists were not given access to this meeting. We, therefore, request the Cabinet of Ministers, the Committee for National Security, and [words indistinct] to allow Voice and Vision to report on the sociopolitical and [words indistinct] to inform our countrymen to enable the people of the Republic of Tajikistan to learn about the concrete steps taken for the normalization of the situation.

Rallies Showing Political 'Discontent' Held

LD120621 '992 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 1700 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Text] According to information received from unofficial sources, a rally was held on 11 June at the center of the Soviet rayon attended by more than 39,000 people. Participants of the rally discussed the political situation in Kulyab and the rumors alleging that people from Kulyab are to attack the Soviet rayon. Explanations from militia officers and veterans of the Afghan war, who had come from Kulyab, calmed the people. Discontent could be heard on inaction on the part of the republican and oblast government to normalize the situation in the republic.

A meeting that was held by the supporters of Mullo Haydar in Kulyab was attended by more than 1,000 people. The rally demanded the following:

Kulyab and Kurgan-Tuybe Oblasts should merge. Exiles from Kulyab should return to the homeland, otherwise their relatives and families [words indistinct]. An extraordinary republican session [as heard] should be held in Kulyab or Khojand.

Our (?correspondent) reports that despite meetings, the political situation in the oblast is gradually returning to normal. People are becoming more aware of the real situation.

Party Leader Urges Ethnic Russians To Remain

OW1206190792 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1457 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Speaking on Tajik TV on Thursday [11 June], Chairman Tajikistan's Islamic Revival Party Muhammadsharif Khimmatzoda [name as received] urged ethnic Russians not to leave Tajikistan. In May 1992, about 20,000 people, most of them Russians, emigrated from Tajikistan.

"We are children of one homeland. We have nothing to divide, so we must live in peace, like friends, and work for the benefit of our common homeland," he said.

Turkmenistan

Niyazov Tours Oblasts on Eve of Elections

LD1506075892 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1100 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] Electricity, gas, and water is to be supplied free of charge to the population of Turkmenistan from October this year. Turkmen President Saparmurad Niyazov stated this government aim on Friday, 12 June, at a meeting with workers from the Tashauz oblast. The president has also held similar meetings with representatives of labor collectives and leaders in other oblasts within the republic. In particular, at a meeting with landowners, he announced that the government is to provide aid to the rayons which have suffered as a result of natural disasters this year. A credit worth 6 million rubles at an interest rate of 2 percent is to be allocated for this purpose.

Saparmurad Niyazov's trip around the oblasts has taken place on the eve of elections to the post of president of Turkmenistan, which are due to take place on 21 June. At the meetings various aspects of domestic and foreign policy, economics, and the social protection of the population in conditions of the transition to the market were raised.

Turkmenian Military District Dissolved

OW1306173992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1634 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Tansmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Red Banner Turkmenian Military District (TurkMD) is ceasing its existence. The official date for its disbandment is June 30. It is supposed to be dissolved by the order of the Commander of the TurkMD Colonel General Kondratyev who is already appointed a deputy of the Russian Defense Minister by Yeltsin's decree.

Diplomatic Relations Established With Greece

LD1106102792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2037 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Text] Moscow, June 10 ITAR-TASS—The extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador of Greece in Russia, Elias Gounaris, and the permanent representative of the Turkmen Government in Moscow, N. Nurklychev today exchanged verbal notes on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Relations between Greece and Turkmenistan will be regulated by principles and norms of international rights, contained in the U.N. Charter and the Helsinki Final Act, the representatives of both sides emphasised. According to their conviction, the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two states will also assist in strengthening international peace and stability.

Uzbekistan

Party Formed To Protect Ethnic Russians

OW1206194092 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1512 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The new political party—of Social Progress—currently being set up in Uzbekistan has found approval of the republic's former Vice-President Shukrulla Mirsaydov who is now in opposition to the present government. "I would rather join such a party", he remarked to IF [INTERFAX] correspondent.

The party aims to protect the rights of Russian-speaking people in Uzbekistan and to encourage public activities of former rank-and-file Communists "who can't be blamed for anything and possess useful skills and experience".

The founding conference of the party has been provisionally appointed for the first half of July.

Japanese Satellite Communications Assembled

PM1206113692 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1400 GMT 10 Jun 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast: Video report by M. Ganiyev]

[Text] [Ganiyev voice over video of workers assembling equipment] Uzbek communications workers are completing the assembly of a satellite communications system with the well-known Japanese firm NEC. One-and-a-half million subscribers in Uzbekistan will soon be able to make a quick telephone call to any country in the world with the aid of the Intelsate satellite. A huge satellite dish is to link the republic's banking system with world capital. National television will receive and transmit video news. These up to date telecommunications have cost Uzbekistan a sizeable sum in freely convertible currency.

[Unidentified Uzbek official] We are hoping to make a corresponding profit and to invest some of it in the development of a telephone network in the countryside, which is where most of the pressure lies today.

Lenin Monument in Tashkent Removed at Night

PM1006090992 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 1

[Shakhabutdin Zaynutdinov report: "The Lenin Monument Has Been Dismantled in Tashkent"]

[Text] Under cover of night, the most grandiose monument to V.I. Lenin in the Central Asian area, which was located in Tashkent's central square—called Mustakiplik (Independence) Square since last year—was pulled down 7 June.

The bronze construction, as high as a 10-story building, and designed by the famous sculptor N. Tomskiy, was erected on the initiative of Sharaf Rashidov, then leader of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan. Lenin Street in Tashkent was recently renamed Rashidov Square, and a bust of him as twice hero of socialist labor, which was taken down after his death, will evidently be restored again.

Armenia

Azeris Launch Attack on Nagorno-Karabakh

LD1206183492 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1802 GMT 12 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tigran Liloyan]

[Text] Yerevan, 12 Jun—Azerbaijan's armed forces began a large-scale attack on Askeran and Mardakert rayons of Nagorno- Karabakh this afternoon. The KARABAKH NEWS AGENCY reported this evening that the Azerbaijani side has attacked the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic along the entire length of the border with Agdam Rayon, using Grad salvo-firing installations and artillery guns. According to reports from Stepanakert, the operation involves more than 100 tanks and armored vehicles are being used as well as SU-25 aircraft and Mi-24 helicopters, from which several unguided rocket shells have been fired and two bombs have been dropped.

The KARABAKH NEWS AGENCY notes that all of this is the equipment of the motorized rifle regiment that was recently handed over by Russia to Azerbaijan within the framework of the sharing of the property of the armed forces of the former USSR stationed in the Transcaucasus.

Yerevan Radio on Attack

NC1206163092 Yerevan Radio Yerevan in Azeri 1330 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Text] Dear listeners, we now present a report on the latest incidents in the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic [NKR] and in the border region between Armenia and Azerbaijan:

Azerbaijani officials continue to resort to brute force. After the presidential elections in Azerbaijan, tension gradually increased in Nagorno-Karabakh and in the rayons on the border between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The national Army units in Azerbaijan continue to commit crimes in Nagorno-Karabakh and in Armenia's border rayons. They fire on residential areas with various types of arms and heavy artillery guns and use tanks, armored vehicles, Grad rocket launchers, aircraft, and helicopters.

This is not the extent of the enemy's armed operations. It has frequently launched attacks in various places, threatened the peaceful people, and destroyed houses and other vital installations. This tyrannical behavior has not been tolerated; the Azerbaijan Armed Forces attacks have been repulsed in all directions. Azerbaijan military units have been forced to retreat after sustaining casualties and losing several combat vehicles.

But the aggression against Nagorno-Karabakh continues. Its Mardakertskiy, Martuninskiy, and Gadrutskiy Rayons have been fired on intensively and attacked in the past few days. Using armored vehicles, the Azerbaijanis launched attacks from their positions in Nareshtar and (Gerektar) on the Armenian inhabited (Getaban) and [name indistinct] towns last night. The Armenian self-defense forces confronted the attacks and counterattacked, forcing the enemy units to retreat. The attacking units sustained casualties in the clashes.

The Armenian self-defense forces maintained their counter attacks to eliminate the firing positions in Nareshtar. Three Armenian freedom fighters were killed and eight others were wounded in the clashes. The Azerbaijani dead and wounded are many times more.

Mardakert city and the towns of Maraga and Karmiravan were fired on from the Agdamskiy and Terterskiy Rayons in Azerbaijan with Grad rocket launchers and heavy artillery guns on the same day. One resident was wounded and there was damage.

In our earlier broadcasts, we said that peaceful construction work is continuing in the [NKR] republic's central areas. Life is returning to normal in Stepanakert, the NKR capital. Several vital installations in Stepanakert are functioning again and this work is continuing.

The bakery in NKR's Martuninskiy Rayon has reopened. The people in Artsakh [Nagorno-Karabakh] do not doubt the NKR will eventually be recognized as an independent state and that Azerbaijan's aggression will end. Artsakh's Armenians have sworn to defend their independence until the last drop of their blood is shed.

Meanwhile, pharmaceutical drugs, fuel, and provisions are being supplied to the NKR through the corridor between Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh, but reports say Azerbaijan is massing armed units and armored vehicles in the rayons which border Nagorno-Karabakh, showing that the neighboring republic has not abandoned its intention to blockade the humanitarian corridor and maintain its attacks and raids on Nagorno-Karabakh. Azerbaijan's national Army fighters do not seem as intent on bloodshed as they have been. They realize they have been waging an unjust struggle and [words indistinct]. It is no coincidence that deserters from the ranks of the national Army in the neighboring republic are increasing. The minorities in Azerbaijan, the Kurds, Lezgins, [words indistinct], do not wish to participate in the war. They know that they too will be the target of a similar attack sooner or later.

Speaking on Baku Radio, Rakhim Gaziyev has said people are deserting the Azerbaijan Armed Forces. The regiment from Lenkoran in Amiranlar and the one from Gendzha in Agdamskiy Rayon have abandoned their positions and similar is occurring elsewhere.

Clashes in the Armenian rayons bordering Azerbaijan are gradually increasing. You could say the Azerbaijan Armed Forces are firing on all our border cities and towns daily. These cities and towns are being fired on with various types of arms.

Grad rocket launchers and artillery guns were used to fire on the town of Yerakh in Araratskiy Rayon at 2030 on 10 June, when five peaceful residents were wounded. Firing resumed yesterday.

The (Khoti), Voskepar, and (Voskeban) towns in Noyemberyanskiy Rayon, the [name indistinct] and (Neti Karmiragdyr) in Tavushskiy Rayon, and the (Deganush) town in Kapanskiy Rayon were bombarded last night. A 15-year-old youth was killed in (Deganush) town. Firing resumed today.

Armenia's airspace was violated over Tavushskiy Rayon at 1100 yesterday, when two Azerbaijani helicopters fired on Aygepar, (Neti Karmiragdyr), Tavush, and (Derin Karmiragdyr). A woman was killed in (Derin Karmiragdyr).

For two hours the night before, the eastern sector of Kapan city was relentlessly shelled with artillery guns from positions in the towns of Seidlyar and Kazanchi in Zangelanskiy Rayon. Fire was also directed on [placenames indistinct] in the rayon. Armenian border guards immediately returned fire and [words indistinct]. Several residents in Kapan have been wounded. These criminal acts will not be tolerated. The Azerbaijani people will also suffer, but this is not the way to solve the problem. Clashes must end [words indistinct]

Dear listeners, you have heard a report on the latest incidents in the NKR and in the border region between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Azeris Seize Plane 11 Jun

OW1206180892 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1457 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The National Security Department of the Nagorno-Karabakh republic reports that on June 11, Azeri military formations attacked a CIS air base with three IL-76 transportation planes near the city of Gyandzh. The planes were expected to be used for the evacuation of servicemen's families from the region.

The Azeris seized one plane and flew to Baku. The other two planes had been fought [as received] back and flew out with servicemen's families on board. The Azeris blasted the runway and tracking equipment.

'Extremely Tense' Situation Reported

NC1306185892 Yerevan Radio Yerevan International Service in Armenian 1630 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] Some sort of relative calm prevails along the Armenian-Azerbaijani border. It can only be interpreted as a smokescreen for the broad, large-scale military operations launched by the Azerbaijani regular and irregular forces against Nagorno-Karabakh.

But the Azerbaijani guns are not silent. Idzhevanskiy Rayon is still being shelled with artillery. After a brief respite, cannon salvos were fired at 1600 today on Aygehovit, (Bazashen), (Hashtarak), and (Gitavan) villages. The enemy is also using tanks. Our border guards' energetic counters are checking the Azerbaijanis.

The Azerbaijanis are again shelling Yeraskh town in Araratskiy Rayon from Nakhichevan's Sadaraksiy Rayon. The shelling is irregular and sporadic.

A similar situation prevails in Vardenisskiy Rayon. The massive, sporadic firing coming from Kelbadzharskiy Rayon is immediately being silenced by return fire from the Armenian border guards.

The situation is extremely tense in the border zone of Gorisskiy Rayon. Kornidzor village started to come under shelling on the morning of 13 June and the shelling caused destruction. The situation in the region is tense because the fate of six young people taken hostage from Tekh village is unknown.

Irregular automatic fire is being opened on Movses and Aygepar villages in Tavushskiy Rayon.

At 1800, the situation was calm in Kapanskiy, Noyemberyanskiy, and Krasnoselskiy rayons.

Further on Fighting

NC1306200692 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1730 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] [Passage indistinct] As already reported, large Azerbaijani armed formation launched a wide-scale attack from the direction of Agdam against the border villages of Nagorno-Karabakh on 12 June. [passage indistinct] Martuni and Gadrut have been shelled with large-caliber cannons, tanks, and Grad mounts since this morning.

Intensive artillery shelling was directed on Buzluk, Manashid, and Shaumyanov in Shaumyanovskiy Rayon. The regional hospital was damaged. The Azerbaijanis used military helicopters, a lot of military hardware, and Grad mounts. The hills opposite Buzluk and those to the right of Erkech fell under the enemy's control at noon. Both the fighters and the peaceful population suffered dead and injured. The fighting was [word indistinct] at 1300. More then 20 tanks and 20 armored cars took part in the attack. The Azerbaijanis managed to enter Buzluk and then started to move toward Verishen.

According to confirmed reports, SU-25 aircraft dropped chemical bombs on Shaumyanov in the morning. More then 10 people suffering from poisoning were taken to the hospital. The population of Buzluk suffered the most from the use of chemical weapons.

With the exception of Shaumyanovskiy Rayon, the Azerbaijani Armed Forces advances elsewhere in Nagorno-Karabakh have been halted at those positions that the Azerbaijanis had occupied by 2300 last night [words indistinct].

Aircraft Drops 'Chemical Bombs'

NC1306143192 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1200 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] The SU-25 attack aircraft has dropped poisonous chemical bombs on villages in Nagorno-Karabakh Republic's [NKR] Shaumyanovskiy Rayon, Eduard Tumanyants, deputy chief adviser on national security affairs to the Armenian president, told SNARK today. He said various sources had confirmed it. Many peaceful residents were taken to hospital with various wounds.

As of noon on 13 June, the Azerbaijani Army's armored convoy was moving into the interior of NKR's Mardakertskiy Rayon.

Tumanyants confirmed reports that Turkish specialists helped to prepare the Azerbaijani Army's broad military operations against NKR.

Armenian Settlements Seized

LD1306143392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1351 GMT 13 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow June 13 TASS—"The Armenian settlements of Pirdzhamal and Nakhichevan [Nakhichevanik] have been seized in the Askeran region, nine Armenians have been killed and 37 wounded," Karabakh Supreme Soviet Press Secretary Gegam Bagdasaryan told ITAR-TASS.

"The Armenian self-defence units managed to put out of action four enemy's tanks, seize an APC and undermine lots of armored vehicles. Crews of the majority of APCs were ethnic Russians," he said.

The Azeris have managed to seize the settlements of Kichan and Srkhavend in the Mardakert region and began a tank offensive on the settlements of Kolatak and Chldran. In the afternoon the offensive was stopped, both sides have losses.

The Karabakh self-defence forces' staff believes the aim of the Azeri operation in the Mardakert region is to separate the Shaumyanovskiy and Mardakert regions from the rest of Nagorno-Karabakh.

Bagdasaryan said the Azeri offensive began right at the time acting Karabakh Supreme Soviet Chairman Georgiy Petrosyan was meeting Chairman of the CSCE Minsk conference on Nagorno-Karabakh Mario Raffaelli in Moscow.

The sides discussed the participation of a Karabakh delegation in the preliminary conference on Karabakh settlement in Rome. Due to the aggravated situation Petrosyan interrupted his Moscow visit and left for Stepanakert.

Village 'Completely Destoyed'

LD1306212392 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 2000 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Report from correspondent Armen Dulyan in Yerevan]

[Text] Azerbaijani formations seized and completely destroyed the Armenian village of Buzluk [in Shaumyan District] on 13 June during the second half of the day, first subjecting it to a chemical attack from the air. According to the headquarters of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic [NKR] Self-Defense Forces, dozens of civilians were killed or taken to hospital with chemical poison.

There is a real threat of the physical elimination of the inhabitants of two major Armenian-populated areas in Shaumyan District, where about 15,000 people live. They are surrounded by Azerbaijani tanks and armored personnel carriers and are being intensively shelled.

Tonight, Azerbaijani Army forces continue to hold five Armenian villages in Askeran District that they seized yesterday. Self-Defense Forces managed to halt the movement of tanks toward Stepanakert.

On the Armenian side, 10 people have been killed and 40 wounded.

Having moved about 10 km into Karabakh territory, the Azerbaijanis have surrounded three Armenian villages in Mardakert District in an attempt to cut the road linking the northern part of Nagorno-Karabakh with the capital of the NKR. Yet, according to the latest reports, the strategic points on this road are still controlled by Armenian fighters. At the same time, the district centers of Martuni and Gadrut in southern Karabakh were subjected to intensive shelling throughout today. There are numerous casualties and much destruction there. The situation in Nagorno-Karabakh remains extremely complex.

A thousands-strong meeting took place in Yerevan tonight. The participants called for uniting all forces to defend Nagorno-Karabakh.

Counteroffensive Launched

LD1406171492 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1625 GMT 14 Jun 92

[By ARMENPRESS correspondent for TASS]

[Text] Yerevan, 14 Jun—The Armenian self-defense forces launched a counteroffensive in Mardakertskiy Rayon this morning. According to ARMENPRES, they managed to retake the village of Kichan, which had been captured earlier and in which an armored group of the Azerbaijani side was surrounded.

Fighting for the liberation of the Armenian villages of Nakhichevanik, Pirdzhamal, Aranzamin, Akbulag, and Dagraz in Askeranskiy Rayon is under way. It has been reported that the Azerbaijani armed formations are experiencing significant losses in personnel and equipment. The villages of Maraga, Karmiravan, and Talish in Mardakertskiy Rayon and almost all the settlements in Noyemberyanskiy, Idzhevanskiy, Kafanskiy, and Gorisskiy rayons of Armenia that border Azerbaijan are being subjected to intensive bombardment which includes Grad launchers.

'Alarming Reports' on Fighting

NC1506144192 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1850 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Text] Alarming reports are coming in from Stepanakert. ARTSAKH [Nagorno-Karabakh] NEWS AGENCY reports that, despite the fierce resistance and forceful counter-strikes by the Armenian self-defense detachments, Azerbaijani Army troops are continuing to expand the military operational area all along the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic's [NKR] border.

According to reliable information from the self-defense forces' headquarters, the Azerbaijani bandits' large-scale operation—the ultimate aim of which is the occupation of Nagorno-Karabakh and the extermination of the Armenian population—has been prepared with the direct participation of Turkish military experts.

The battles also revealed that most of the Azerbaijani Army's tanks and armored cars are being operated by mercenaries of the CIS 4th Army stationed in Azerbaijan. There also are thousands of Slavic mercenaries among Azerbaijan's infantry troops.

It was reported from Stepanakert that poisonous chemical bombs were dropped on the villages in Shaumyanovskiy Rayon on 13 June. There were casualties among the peaceful citizens. Many of the poisoned people were taken to the rayon hospital.

After two days of fighting, the enemy, which had superior forces and was supported by more than 20 tanks and 40 armored cars, managed temporarily to occupy Karachinar, Buzluk, Erkech, Nanashid, Kharkhaput, Hay-Borisy, and Russkiye Borisy villages. According to eyewitness accounts from those who fled these villages, 60 peaceful residents—mostly women, children, and elderly—were barbarically killed by the Azerbaijani bandits, who also plundered and burned down these villages.

More than 100 injured were taken to the rayon center's hospital. Shaumyanov Rayon center and Verishen village are now besieged and are being fiercely shelled with Grad rockets, artillery, and tanks. According to refugees from the area [words indistinct], more than 15,000 people live in these two settlements. The battles are continuing.

On the morning of 14 June, the Armenian self-defense forces managed to check the advance of Azerbaijani tanks and armored cars into Mardakertskiy Rayon. The bandits had pillaged and burned down three Armenian villages during their advance. Pressed by the Armenian freedom fighters, the Azerbaijani military units were forced to retreat from Kichan village, which was occupied and pillaged the previous day.

The battles are continuing. Both sides have suffered substantial losses. Azerbaijani artillery and tanks are continuing to shell (Kochani), Maraga, Karmiravan, Talish and other border villages. Two peaceful residents were killed and four were injured.

With tenacious efforts the Armenian self-defense forces managed to check the advance of the Azerbaijani tanks and armored cars toward Askeran town.

Battles are being waged to liberate Nakhichevanik, Prdzhamal, Aranzemin, Akhbulak, and Dahraz villages. Fifteen were killed and 50 freedom fighters were injured on the Armenian side. The Azerbaijani armed formations suffered incomparably greater losses.

The border villages in Gadrutskiy Rayon also were subjected to artillery shelling. Two residents were killed in [name indistinct] village.

Azerbaijani Army troops also increased the shelling of Armenia's border regions. There are fresh injuries and destruction in Noyemberyanskiy, Idzhevanskiy, Kapanskiy, and Gorisskiy Rayons.

Kichan Village Retaken

OW1406133992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1319 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Reports from the Nagorno-Karabakh self-defense headquarters say on June 14 morning Armenian forces managed to stop the advancement of Azeri troops into the Mardakertskiy region of Nagorno-Karabakh. On Sunday [14 June] afternoon Armenian forces took back the village of Kichan earlier seized by Azeris, and surrounded the village of Syrkhavend where Azeris have up to 50 armored vehicles. The Azeris were presented an ultimatum: to give up. In Chailu an Azeri infantry company ran into ambush and was destroyed.

In the Askeran region Armenian units are stepping up the counteroffensive. According to the self-defense headquarters, they have thrown the enemy back to its original positions and approached Agdam.

An Azeri SU-25 attack plane was brought down over Askeran. Shortly after ejection, the pilot, senior lieutenant Kurbanov, was shot to death in the air.

The latest reports say as a result of the June 12-13 offensive in the Shaymyanovskiy region the Azeri army looted and burned down the Armenian villages of Karachinar, Buzlukh, Erkech, Manashid, Kharkhaput, Armenian Borisy and Russkiye Borisy. Witnesses say that dozens of village residents were killed.

From the morning of June 14 Azeri artillery and tanks have been shelling the Armenian border villages of Noyemberyanskiy, Idzhevanskiy, Kapanskiy and Gorisskiy regions.

The Nagorno-Karabakh self-defense headquarters says it has information that most tanks involved in the June 12 large-scale offensive on Nagorno-Karabakh were driven by mercenaries from the former CIS 4th army. There was also a significant number of Slav mercenaries in the infantry troops.

The headquarters says that a plan for the capturing of Karabakh was drawn up with the active participation of Turkish military experts.

Stepanakert denies the latest reports from Baku about activization of the Azeri offensive on Khodzhaliy.

According to the Azeri Defense Ministry press center, for the past two days Armenian forces have continued an attack on the cities of Agdam, Fizuli and Gyandzha.

The villages of Gulabliy and Abdal of the Agdam region were completely destroyed. On Sunday morning the Agdam self-defense forces threw the attackers beyond the villages of Nakhichevanik and Farukh.

Near Agdam at least 50 Azeris were killed and 130 wounded. the Azeri Defense Ministry estimates the losses on the Armenian side at 500 killed and wounded.

An operational group of the Azeri National Security Ministry discovered 9 corpses of the black race, as well as air-defense self- propelled systems and artillery pieces with registration numbers of the CIS 7th army.

The Azeri presidential press service reports that an Armenian expeditionary corps has launched an offensive on the Azeri regional center Dzhebrail from the Gadrutskiy region of Nagorno-Karabakh. At dawn of June 14 the Armenian army made an attempt to capture the village of Farakhli, Baganis-Airum, Gushchu and Mazam of the Kazakh region in Azerbaijan. Heavy fighting is going on there.

President Urges UN Troops in Nagorno-Karabakh

LD1306100392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0924 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] Madrid June 13 TASS—Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan, who is taking part in the work of the world ecological forum in Rio de Janeiro, said at a press conference on Friday [12 June] that the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh is developing in a dangerous direction, and urged to send U.N. troops there to disengage the warring sides.

According to the information of the EFE news agency, he stressed that the Azeri attack on the Askeran District of Nagorno-Karabakh is another weighty argument in favour of sending U.N. troops to that explosive area as soon as possible. Armenia cannot be satisfied with the sending of U.N. representatives to Nagorno-Karabakh only to monitor cease-fire, because the presence of an international peacekeeping force is needed there to ensure effective armistice.

The Security Council should respond quickly to the aggravation of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, Ter-Petrosyan said. He warned that the world community has no right to be slow in tackling this problem, the way it happened with the situation in Yugoslavia.

Azerbaijan objects emphatically to calling U.N. troops for the disengagement of the warring sides on the borders of Nagorno-Karabakh and insists that the first thing to be done should be the termination of the "aggression on the part of Armenia."

Statement Issued

LD1506015192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2345 GMT 14 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tigran Liloyan]

[Text] Yerevan, 15 Jun—Armenia resolutely protests Azerbaijan's large-scale offensive in Nagorno-Karabakh and calls on the world community to take urgent steps to halt this action and to prevent new casualties and destruction, Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan, who is attending the UN Conference on the Environment and Development, in Brazil, has said in a statement. L. Ter- Petrosyan warned that if international pressure to restrain Azerbaijan is delayed, "Armenia will have no choice but to undertake resolute action and provide the necessary aid and support to defend the rights and security of Nagorno-Karabakh's people." The text of the statement, which was made in Rio de Janeiro on 13 June, was released in Yerevan by the president's press service late on 14 June.

Azerbaijan's actions complicate opportunities to settle the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict peacefully through talks, L. Ter-Petrosyan said. He noted that the attack is "another attempt to prevent the CSCE from holding its Minsk conference on the Nagorno-Karabakh problem in two weeks."

Interviewed on Sanctions

LD1406131592 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1219 GMT 14 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS]

[Text] London June 14 TASS—The international community should apply sanctions against Azerbaijan to make it cease combat operations in Nagorno-Karabakh, President Levon Ter-Petrosyan of Armenia has stated in a REUTER interview.

The Armenian leader, who is attending the U.N. environment and development conference in Rio de Janeiro, pointed out that Armenia would seek political pressure on Azerbaijan within the U.N. framework.

Ter-Petrosyan said that during talks with Azerbaijani Prime Minister Ragim Ali Guseyn ogly Guseynov, who is also attending the world ecological forum, he set out the viewpoint of the Armenian side: An international conference on Nagorno-Karabakh should be held as soon as possible while a cease-fire should be monitored by international observers.

In reply, the prime minister said that the Azerbaijani side was always ready for talks, for peace. However, in actual fact, everything is the other way round, the Armenian president said.

Ter-Petrosyan said he discussed the problem of Nagorno-Karabakh with the chief delegates of a number of countries in the Rio-92 lobby, including Hasan Habibi, first vice-president of Iran, and Turkish Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel. He said he intends to discuss the issue with U.N. Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali as well.

Government Urges International Community Measures

LD1306175592 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1722 GMT 13 Jun 92

[ITAR-TASS correspondent Tigran Liloyan]

[Text] Yerevan, 13 Jun—The Government of Armenia today called on the international community "to take effective measures to immediately halt Azerbaijani military action aimed at totally exterminating the people of Nagorno-Karabakh and dragging Armenia into a major armed conflict." In a statement released in Yerevan, the Armenian Government places responsibility for further escalation of the conflict on the Azerbaijani leadership. The document expresses profound concern and alarm over the developments in the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic. The Armenian government's opinion is that the Azerbaijani leadership has by its latest actions "completely repudiated its political declarations and is openly aiming to torpedo the CSCE-sponsored Nagorno-Karabakh peace process." The heads of diplomatic missions accredited in Yerevan have been familiarized with the statement.

Nagorno-Karabakh self-defense forces shot down an SU-25 combat aircraft yesterday evening, ITAR-TASS has been told by their headquarters; the aircraft belonged to Azerbaijani armed units involved in the large-scale operation against the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic. The incident took place over Shusha Rayon in Karabakh, near the border with Lachin Rayon. The pilot managed to eject, but has not yet been found.

Foreign Ministry Issues 'Strong Protest'

LD1206225792 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2148 GMT 12 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tigran Liloyan]

[Text] Yerevan, 13 June—The Armenian Foreign Ministry has expressed its strong protest "against the barbaric actions of the Azerbaijani side" in Nagorno-Karabakh and has stated, that if they are not halted, Armenia "reserves the right to take adequate measures directed at rendering necessary aid to the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic [NKR] in protecting the rights, freedoms of its citizens and ensure their safety."

An Armenian Foreign Ministry statement distributed here overnight includes an appeal to the peoples and governments of the CIS states and to the world community to take urgent measures "to stop open aggression against Nagorno-Karabakh and to prevent new victims and destructions." According to Yerevan, the military actions unleashed by Azerbaijan against NKR "will inevitably lead to another surge of tension in the region with all the ensuing consequences." The Armenian side lays the responsibility for all this upon the leadership of Azerbaijan.

The statement stresses that the Azerbaijani actions "grossly violate" the decisions of the North Atlantic Cooperation Council on the Karabakh problem recently adopted in Oslo and that in fact they are directed at breaking up attempts to find a peaceful settlement to this problem within the framework of the Minsk conference of CSCE.

The Armenian Foreign Ministry recalls "the impudent anti-Armenian propaganda" which has been unleashed by the Azerbaijani mass media in recent weeks and "the partially successful attempts to thrust upon the public opinion and political circles of the CIS states and the world community an impression that Armenia is the aggressor and initiator in an escalation of tension in Nagorno-Karabakh and outside it." The Armenian side thinks that all this is "nothing more than a propaganda cover for an armed action against the people of Karabakh who have chosen self-determination."

Spokesman on Statement

NC1306135992 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1200 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] Garnik Badalyan, head of the Armenian Foreign Ministry press service, told a SNARK correspondent today that Armenia will be forced to intervene in the military conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh if the Azerbaijani Army's military operations take on greater dimensions, leading to heavy loss of life among the peaceful population of Nagorno-Karabakh Republic.

Commenting on the Foreign Ministry's statement, Badalyan emphasized that Armenians live in Karabakh and that the republic will take every measure to protect them.

Foreign Ministry Condemns Turkish Steps

LD1206154392 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1428 GMT 12 Jun 92

[By ARMENPRESS-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Yerevan, 12 Jun—The Armenian Foreign Ministry has condemned steps recently undertaken by Turkish authorities which contravene the official statement by Ankara about its desire for a peaceful settlement of the conflict around Nagorno-Karabakh and for normalization of relations with the Republic of Armenia. The statement circulated today says inter alia that "periodically the Turkish side obstructs airplanes of the Armenian and foreign air companies which are either on their regular flights or deliver humanitarian freights to Armenia from flying over its territory." Thus, on 6 June, the aircraft of the company "Aeroflot-Armenian Airlines" carrying 146 passangers on board which was on its regular flight from Aleppo to Yerevan, had to take a diversion of about 1000 kilometers, at the request of the Turkish side, and landed in Ankara where it was delayed by several hours under the pretext of examination—it was searched for weapons. At the same time, what draws attention, the document says, is that Turkey is not taking any measures to supervise "the supplies of weapons to Azerbiajan which takes part in the Karabakh conflict." The statement stresses that such actions on the part of the Turkish side are undermining the efforts made by the CSCE and the UN to settle the Karabakh problem and create difficulties in the path of holding the Minsk conference, and lead to further worsening in the region's situation.

Nagorno-Karabakh Ministry on Turkish Role

NC1306142192 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1200 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] The Azerbaijani Army has been attacking Nagorno-Karabakh Republic's [NKR] border villages on a large scale since the morning of 13 June.

The NKR Interior Ministry issued a statement saying that under cover of artillery and tanks, the Azerbaijanis attacked Childran and Golatag villages at 1000. The Armenian Nakhichevanik and Pirdzhamal villages in Askeranskiy Rayon were occupied and burnt down; six people were killed and 26 injured. On the night of 12 June the Azerbaijanis also overran the Armenian Kichan village in Askeranskiy Rayon, turning it into an ash heap. There are no reports on any casualties yet.

The NKR Supreme Soviet press service reports from Stepanakert that reliable NKR Self-Defense Forces Headquarters information says Turkish military specialists helped to prepare the broad plan of attack on NKR's border villages.

Presidential Adviser on Military Stance

LD1506135392 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1200 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] The Azerbaijani units that were attacking Askeran have been thrown back toward Agdam to their initial positions. This was stated to a SNARK agency correspondent today by Ashot Manucharyan, adviser to the Armenian President on national security, citing official sources in Nagorno-Karabakh.

Concerning military action in Shaumyanovskiy Rayon, Manucharyan explained the successes of the Azerbaijani units by the fact that they had managed to transfer a tank division from Gyandzha in a single night. The retreat by the Nagorno-Karabakh defense forces from Shaumyanovskiy rayon was well organized, and it proved possible to avoid any great losses. The civilian inhabitants were evacuated from the villages of the region in good time, Manucharyan stressed.

He refused to reply to a question on Turkey's involvement in the latest events in Nagorno-Karabakh.

Supreme Soviet Presidium Meets on Fighting

NC1306153292 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1400 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] The Armenian Supreme Soviet Presidium met on 13 June, Babken Ararktsyan in the chair. He briefed the meeting on the situation and overnight developments in Nagorno-Karabakh following yesterday's sharp aggravation.

A 12 June Armenian Foreign Ministry statement and accompanying information on the situation have been conveyed to Armenian embassies abroad and to press agencies. President Levon Ter-Petrosyan, who is in Latin America and has been informed, held several urgent meetings in connection with the situation.

An extraordinary presidium session will be held today if needed.

Defense Minister Briefs Supreme Soviet 15 Jun

LD1506114192 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1000 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] Ashot Manucharyn, adviser to the president of the republic on national security issues, and Defense Minister Vazgen Sarkisyan addressed today's session of the Armenian Supreme Soviet.

They briefed deputies on the situation in the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic. As of 1400 on 14 June all populated areas in the Shaumyanovskiy Rayon, the presidential adviser said, had been occupied by the Azerbaijani National Army. The self-defense forces of the rayon have gone over to partisan forms of warfare.

Battles are also continuing in Askeranskiy rayon. Both sides are suffering heavy losses.

The opposition sharply criticized the authorities of Armenia for the lack, in their opinion, of aid to those fighting in the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic.

Armenia 'Prepared' for Nagorno-Karabakh Talks

LD1406014592 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0100 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Text] Armenia has announced that it is prepared to participate in the consultative meeting in Rome and the CSCE's Minsk conference on Nagorno-Karabakh without any conditions whatsoever. NEGA also reports that Yerevan has expressed the view that the Rome meeting's agenda must be amended. The Armenian side believes that the question of an immediate cease-fire by the Azerbaijani side and the establishment of a truce must be submitted in the Italian capital. Armenian sources say that diplomats accredited to Yerevan feel that Baku has made a big mistake by undertaking an open military action in Nagorno-Karabakh on the eve of the Rome consultations.

Delegate on NKR Role

NC1306193692 Yerevan Radio Yerevan International Service in Armenian 1630 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] Armenia's delegation will leave for Rome tomorrow to take part in the CSCE conference on Karabakh. The interested sides in Rome must clarify the agenda for Minsk on 23 June and examine certain issues which are hampering the convening of the congress.

Seyran Bagdasaryan, a member of Armenia's delegation and a deputy in the Armenian Supreme Soviet, told our correspondent that Armenia's delegation believes the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic [NKR] authorities must participate in any talk on resolving the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

NKR Leader Not Satisfied on Status at Talks

NC1306150392 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1200 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] The consultations held in Moscow on 12 June between Mario Rafaelli, the chairman of the Minsk International Conference, and representatives of Nagorno-Karabakh Republic [NKR] produced no result.

Georgiy Petrosyan, acting chairman of NKR Supreme Soviet, told a SNARK correspondent that the status being offered to NKR's representatives at the 15 June CSCE meeting in Rome would not satisfy the NKR delegation.

Armenia's delegation, which includes two members of the NKR Supreme Soviet Presidium, will leave for Rome on 14 June.

Commentary on Azerbaijani 'Propaganda Machine'

NC1306182792 Yerevan Radio Yerevan International Service in Armenian 1630 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Amasya Hovannisyan commentary]

[Text] We learned a short time ago that during the bombing of Armenian settlements in Shaumyanovskiy Rayon by a SU-25 strategic fighter plane, the Azerbaijani Army used chemical bombs and there are casualties.

It must be obvious to everyone why the Azerbaijani propaganda machine was spreading fiction about the alleged use of chemical weapons by the Armenians, fabricating reports of attacks on Nakhichevan by Armenia.

Only yesterday, the official propaganda machine in Baku raised an (?uproar) about the alleged shelling of the so-called peaceful settlements from Armenia's Idzhevanskiy Rayon. At that moment the Azerbaijani Armed Forces launched an unprecedented attack on the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic from various directions.

The Azerbaijani side is using a lot of military hardware and air power inherited from the former Soviet Army.

When the international community is trying to find a peaceful solution to the Karabakh conflict and when, on 15 June, there will be a meeting in Rome between 11 CSCE countries in preparation for the 23 June conference in Minsk, the large-scale operation launched by Azerbaijan is simply an attempt to undermine the Rome meeting, Minsk conference, and all the international peace efforts. What's more, Baku's policy based on armed force is adventurism threatening regional and international security.

Former Soviet Troops Continue Withdrawal

LD1306143692 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1355 GMT 13 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tigran Liloyan]

[Text] Yerevan June 13 TASS—The withdrawal of former Soviet troops stationed in Armenia continues from republican territory, said First Deputy Commander and Head of the 7th Guard Army Staff Major-General Vladimir Neverov.

An operative-tactical missile brigade is now being withdrawn from Armenia. "As soon as we receive the order, we will disband a motorized infantry division and a chemical defence battalion," said the general.

Under the agreement between the Russian and Armenian Defence Ministries, two motorized infantry divisions and a number of auxiliary units will be left on Armenian territory, sources at the 7th Guard Army Staff told ITAR-TASS.

Plans for Remaining Troops Noted

OW1206184492 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1457 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The command of the 7th Army stationed in Armenia plans to retain two divisions and several auxiliary detachments in the republic. The chief of the army's headquarters Vladimir Neverov says that at present a rocket brigade is being withdrawn from Armenia. He also mentioned that one rifle division and a company of chemical defense are planned to be disbanded.

Azerbaijan

Election Committee Declares Elchibey President

NC1306201992 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 13 Jun 92

[All figures as heard]

[Text] The Central Election Committee held a meeting under Dzhafar Veliyev on 13 June. The meeting examined the outcome of the 7 June presidential elections. Considering the protocols conveyed to the committee by the electoral district committees on the outcome of the presidential elections, the meeting established that the citizens actively participated in the elections. A total of 3,308,385 people, or 76.3 percent of the electorate, participated in the elections.

In view of the intensified attacks by Armenian brigandry groups, voting was not held in election districts No. 27 in Shusha, No. 77 in Shushinskiy Rayon, No. 23 in Agdere, No. 56 in Lachinskiy Rayon, No. 69 in Khankendi, No. 62 in Khodzhavend, No. 73 in Khodzhaly, and No. 84 in Sadarak.

Citizens who have been forced to leave their homes voted in the areas where they now live. The elections were held with the active participation of all social organizations and movements in accordance with wide-ranging democratic principles.

Considering the protocols of the district and area electoral committees, the Central Election Committee established that 2.5 percent of the electorate voted for candidate Rafik Abdullayev, 59.5 percent for Ebulfez Elchibey Aliyev, 2.7 percent for Ilyas Ismaylov, 1.7 percent for Yakub Mamedov, and 33 percent for Nizami Suleymanov. A total of 80,907 votes were regarded as null and void. A total of 72,099 votes were cast against all the candidates.

In accordance with Article 15 of the election law related to presidential elections, the Central Election Committee declared Ebulfez Elchibey Aliyev, who secured more than half of the votes, as president.

Ministry: Rocket Systems Sent to Nagorno-Karabakh

LD1206213892 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1845 GMT 12 Jun 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The Azerbaijani Defense Ministry revealed that several hours ago eight Grad rocket systems manufactured at Yerevan factories were sent from Armenia to Nagorno-Karabakh, as well as four armored personnel carriers and two anti-tank guns.

Continued Clashes in Nagorno-Karabakh Reported

NC1206181792 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Text] Armenian armed forces shelled the town of Sadarak in the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic at sporadic intervals last night and again at 0600 this morning. According to the Azerbaijan Ministry of Defense, more than 70 shells were fired on the town in the past two days. The ministry disclosed that Sadarak was shelled from [words indistinct] in Armenia. There is damage to the town.

The Armenian armed forces fired on residential areas in Azerbaijan's Kazakhskiy, Kel'badzharsakiy, Fizulinskiy, and [name indistinct] Rayons with various types of firearms, artillery guns, and armored vehicles on 11 June. The Amiranlar, Moganly, and [name indistinct] towns in Khodzhavendskiy Rayon were fired on from neighboring Armenian-inhabited towns last night and damage was caused. Residential areas in Agdamskiy Rayon were also fired on, the self-defense units returning fire, silencing the enemy. The Defense Ministry says the firing positions have been silenced and casualties inflicted on the enemy. [passage indistinct]

Armed Forces Capture Towns

NC1306185092 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] The situation in the border region was tense last night. The Yazyduzy area of Kubatlinskiy Rayon, the Kazanchi and [name indistinct] towns in Zangelanskiy Rayon, the Karalar town in Tauzskiy Rayon, and the Sadarak Rayon in the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic were fired on from Armenia with various types of arms. One of our fighters was wounded in Zangelanskiy Rayon.

The [two names indistinct] and Dzhuvarly towns in Fizulinskiy Rayon were fired on from the Armenian-inhabited towns in Yukhary Karabakh [Nagorno-Karabakh] with missile launchers yesterday, when 11 national Army members were wounded. Enemy fire was returned.

The [name indistinct] town in Kazakhskiy Rayon was shelled with artillery guns and tanks at 1500 today. A 15-year-old youth from Turkistan [as heard] was killed and there was damage to the town. Return fire silenced the enemy. National Army fighters continue to reinforce their defensive positions on our republic's border with Armenia.

Agdamskiy Rayon: Armed Armenian units used various weapons to fire on residential areas along the Yukhary

Karabakh border, those in the Lachinskiy, Shushinskiy, Dzhebrailskiy, Fizulinskiy, Agdamskiy, Terterskiy, Kel'badzharskiy, and Gorenboyskiy Rayons, over a long period. The enemy deployed many arms and military equipment and massed a large number of military units in Yukhary Karabakh. The enemy started firing on Azerbaijan's residential areas without respite, the systematic firing threatening the lives of thousands of Azeris. Many buildings were destroyed.

The field defense units of the Azerbaijani Armed Forces launched an attack in the direction of Askeranskiy and Agdere Rayons on 12 June, aiming to silence the Armenian armed units' fire and to ward off the enemy attacks. National Army fighters are reported to have entered the (Bekhrad), Agbulak, Aranzamin, (Turdzhemal), [name indistinct] Nakhichevanik, and Agdere towns. They are also reported to have entered the (Karachlar), [two names indistinct], (Gakh), (Ortaguneysaya), (Bashguneysaya), and (Valishin) towns in the former Mardakertskiy Rayon.

Our troops are reinforcing their defense positions in the towns they have captured. The enemy has been forced to retreat after suffering heavy losses and the clashes are continuing. The command headquarters of the Azerbaijani Armed Forces is maintaining the operation which aims to silence the enemy and establish security in the region.

The Azerbaijani field defense units in the Gorenboyskiy and Terterskiy Rayons have also launched combat operations to evict the enemy from our land.

Agdam Leader Killed

TA1306180492 Ankara TRT Television Network in Turkish 1700 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] The counteroffensive launched by the Azerbaijani Turks from Agdam toward Askeran, following the Armenian offensive that started last night, is still continuing. The number of Azerbaijani Turks killed in this offensive has reached 30. (Allahverdi Bagirov), the Agdam regional leader of the Azerbaijani Popular Front, is among those killed. Popular Front officials said that there are reports that many Armenian emplacements have been rendered ineffective in the Azerbaijani counteroffensive but that it too early to say anything definite. Irfan Sapmaz reports from Baku:

[Begin recording] According to information obtained from the Azerbaijani Defense Ministry Press Center, the Armenians launched their first offensive on Agdam with Grad and Crystal missiles and artillery fire. The Armenians, who launched their offensive in the direction of Agdam with armored vehicles, began to retreat this morning as a result of the resistance of the Azerbaijani national army. The report that (Allahberdi Bagirov), the famous commander of the Popular Front volunteers' battalion in Agdam, was killed when his armored vehicle hit a mine has saddened all of Azerbaijan. Meanwhile, it is also being reported that the Armenians are continuing their artillery fire on Tauz, (Kazakh), Kubatly, Zangelan, Fizuli, and other settlements near the Azerbaijani border. [end recording]

5 Villages Near Askeran Recaptured

TA1306202192 Ankara Turkiye Radyolari Network in Turkish 2000 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] The Azeri Turks, who launched a counteroffensive following the Armenian offensive that started last night, have recaptured five villages near Askeran that had been under Armenian control. According to a statement issued by the Azerbaijani Defense Ministry, Armenian emplacements near Askeran have been silenced and Azerbaijani forces are still advancing. The Azerbaijani Popular Front has announced that at least 10 Azeri Turks were killed in the clashes and that many more were injured. Azerbaijani sources stated that many civilians were killed during the rocket attack launched by Armenian forces against the villages in Agdam and its vicinity.

Situation Remains 'Tense' 14 Jun

NC1406185192 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Text] The Azerbaijani Defense Ministry's Analytical Information Center has disclosed the following:

The situation in our republic's border regions and the areas in Yukhary Karabakh [Nagorno-Karabakh] continued to be tense on 14 June. Azerbaijani Armed Forces are in control of the [words indistinct]. The enemy attacks are being repulsed in all directions. Azerbaijani armored units broadened the scope of their combat operations and forced the enemy from Karachinar, [name indistinct], and (Gakh) towns in former Shaumyanovskiy Rayon. The Armenian armed units have been forced to retreat after suffering casualties and losing military equipment and vehicles. National Army units are fighting to take [two names indistinct] and (?Shaumyan) at present.

Armenian armed forces fired on Abdal and Dzhulably towns in Agdamskiy Rayon and on the Sadarak area at 2200 on 13 June. They also tried to launch an attack on the towns. Azerbaijani Army units in Agdamskiy Rayon inflicted severe blows on the enemy at about 0600 this morning. The enemy units were forced to retreat. Our troops continue to force the enemy to retreat in the Askeran region. Defensive positions in the liberated towns are being reinforced. Clashes are taking place around Askeran and [name indistinct] at present.

Azerbaijani Armed Forces thus far have lost 50 fighters in clashes in the vicinity of Askeran city, while another 130 fighters have been wounded. The Armenians were forced to retreat from the city today after losing nearly 500 men and many armored vehicles. The body of [name indistinct] was founded on the battlefield. The clashes are continuing at present.

Yukhary Askipara, Ashagy Askipara, [name indistinct], Kushchu Ayrum, Kyzylgadzhyly, Abadbeyli, [name indistinct], Buyuk Dzhafarli, Bala Dzhafarli, and [name indistinct] towns were intensively fired on from Armenia's Idzhevanskiy and Noyemberyanskiy Rayons with tanks, artillery guns, and large-caliber machine guns at 0600 this morning. Incoming reports said that several CIS 7th Army personnel are among the ranks of the Armenian armed units. The field defense units, militia workers of the Kazakhskiy Rayon Internal Affairs Department, and volunteers steadfastly held their positions and warded off the enemy attacks. Two enemy firing positions were destroyed. The armed Armenian units suffered many casualties and were forced to retreat. An Azerbaijani fighter was martyred and 10 others were wounded. The clashes are continuing.

The rayon center and Albasanly, [names indistinct], Karadagly, Gadzhar, and [name indistinct] towns in Fizulinskiy Rayon were fired on last night from former Gadrutskiy Rayon with tanks and artillery guns. The fire was returned and the enemy was silenced. Several of our fighters have been wounded. Our troops are reinforcing their defensive positions in order to ward off the enemy attacks.

Dzhebrailskiy Rayon was fired on yesterday from former Gadrutskiy Rayon with artillery guns. The rayon also was systematically fired on at 1200 today from former Gadrutskiy Rayon. The enemy also fired on the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic [NAR]. [Names indistinct] in Babeskskiy Rayon in the NAR were shelled from Armenia with artillery guns at 1250 today. One person was wounded. Sadarak town was fired on with missile launchers from 1330 to 1400 today. No one was killed. The situation in the other parts of the NAR was rather calm, regardless of the shots heard periodically.

Ministry Reports Villages' Capture

TA1406153492 Ankara ANATOLIA in English 1505 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Text] Baku, June 14 (A.A)—In its offensive launched Friday [12 June], the Azerbaijani Army started to record significant gains.

Azerbaijan's Defence Ministry spokesman told AA on Sunday [14 June] that the Azerbaijani army supported by units of the Interior Ministry and volunteers of the Popular Front, which launched their attacks from Agdam, had taken the Dahraz, Akbulak, Aranzemin, Pirdzhamal, Nakhichevanik and Ferruh villages in the Askeran region, the Karaslar, Esirler, Sirhavend, Ortaguneypaye, Menikli villages in the Akdere region, the Cambaz and Erkec villages of Geranboy and the Menesiz, Buzluk and Ermenibarisi villages of the Saumyan region.

He added that clashes in the region were continuing.

In the clashes more than 50 Azeris died and about 130 were wounded so far while Azeris received reports that the death toll of the Armenian side was about 400.

Observers say that the first concrete victory gained by the Azeris since 1988, when the Armenians launched a violent campaign, led to panic among the Armenian administration.

Assault Hits Terter

LD1406153192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1330 GMT 14 Jun 92

[By AZERINFORM-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Baku, 14 Jun—All last night and all today the Azerbaijani rayon center of Terter has been subjected to a mass ground and air rocket and artillery barrage from the Armenian settlements of Leninavan and Talysh.

An AZERINFORM correspondent learned of these events at the Azerbaijani Ministry of Defense press center. There is great destruction and casualties among the civilian population. As a result of military actions by the Armenian side, the local self-defense detachment has been forced to pull back. It is currently conducting a battle on the outskirts of the town.

Fighting Summarized

LD1406193692

[Editorial Report] Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian at 1640 GMT on 14 June, in a Baku-datelined report by an AZERINFORM-TASS correspondent reports:

"Bloody fighting is under way on the territory of Kazakh Rayon in Azerbaijan. AZERINFORM reports that its villages have been subjected to artillery fire from Armenia since the morning. A number of them were then seized. During the afternoon Armenian formations supported by heavy equipment and aviation continued an offensive deep into the territory of Azerbaijan. Intensive rocket fire on the Azerbaijani town of Agdam bordering Nagorno-Karabakh is continuing. Fifteen projectiles from 'Grad' and 'Crystal' launchers were fired at the town. There are fatalities. During the day Azerbaijani villages bordering Armenia in Tauz Rayon, Azerbaijan, were also subjected to shelling."

Commentator Andrey Goncharov, reporting on Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian at 1600 GMT on 14 June in the "Vesti" newscast, reports: "According to reports from Stepanakert, in the last 24 hours Azerbaijani troops have captured 15 Armenian villages. Fighting continues in Shaumyan, Mardakert, and Askeran rayons, but the latest reports of the Nagorno-Karabakh self-defense staff reports that through a counterattack the Armenian detachments have now reached Agdam. The village of Syrkhavend is surrounded and its garrison has been told to surrender."

He continues: "From Baku come reports of troops and equipment being moved via the Lachin corridor from Armenia to Karabakh. According to Azerbaijani sources, an Armenian expeditionary corps embarked in the early hours of this morning on offensives in three directions—on the towns of Agdam, Fizuli, and Gyandzha. Thousands of refugees are coming to Baku. The Azerbaijani Defense Ministry claims that the Armenian side is using chemical ammunition from the arsenal of the 366th Regiment."

The accompanying video shows archive footage of the fighting.

Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian at 1600 GMT on 14 June carries 70-second report citing a SNARK correspondent's information gained from a representative of the president of Armenia that "the republic's armed forces are fighting to liberate villages in Askeranskiy Rayon. Two Azerbaijani helicopters and one ground-attack aircraft have been shot down by the Armenian side. This was stated today at the Nagorno-Karabakh Self-Defense Headquarters. In Shaumyanovskiy Rayon the Armenian villages of Erkech, Manashid, and Buzluk have been seized. Refugees report that Azerbaijani troops shot inhabitants of these villages who did not have time to escape. One Mi-24 helicopter which had left Armenia for Nagorno-Karabakh was shot down by Azerbaijani troops. All the helicopter's crew and passengers were killed."

Armenia Accused of Opening 2d Front

TA1506051192 Ankara Turkiye Radyolari Network in Turkish 0430 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] As the attacks initiated by the Armenians in Karabakh two days ago continue, Azerbaijan has accused Armenia of opening a second front in the northwest of the country.

AZERINFORM reports that the Armenians have attacked the border villages inhabited by Kazakhs and have occupied some settlements. Fierce fighting is reported to be taking place in the area.

Geranboy Rayon 'Liberated'

LD1506100692 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0800 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] We have just received this report from the ASSA-IRADA agency. This morning, the Azerbaijani National Army liberated the last Azerbaijani village, Gyulsyustan, in Geranboy Rayon. This settlement is a site of historical interest. In 1813, Russia and Iran signed a treaty here which legalized Russia's annexation of the northern lands of Azerbaijan.

The fact that the liberation of this village completes the expulsion of Armenian armed units from Geranboy Rayon is thus symbolic, ASSA-IRADA stresses.

Shaumyan Region Recovered

TA1506105092 Ankara Turkiye Radyolari Network in Turkish 1000 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] Fierce fighting is taking place in Karabakh and its vicinity in the counterattack by the Azeri Turks against Armenian offensives.

The Azerbaijani ASSA-IRADA News Agency reports that Gyulsyustan, the last Azeri town in Armenian hands in the Shaumyan region in northern Karabakh, has been recovered.

The agency reports that 10 Armenians and four Azeri Turks were killed in the fight to recover the town.

The Karabakh Armenian committee spokesman confirmed that the Shaumyan region has been recovered by the Azeri Turks.

Statement Urges Help in 'Unequal Contest'

LD1306134692 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1200 GMT 13 Jun 92

[By AZERINFORM correspondent for TASS]

[Text] Baku, 13 Jun—"The leadership of the Republic of Azerbaijan calls upon all peace-loving and democratic people to curb aggression on the part of Armenia, to avert an escalation of violence, and to help Azerbaijan, which has against its will become embroiled in a bloody conflict and is defending its territorial integrity and the honor and worth of its citizens in an unequal contest." This is what appears in a statement by the Azerbaijani president's press service which was circulated by AZERINFORM today.

The statement says that on 15 May the people of Azerbaijan halted the attack of a dictatorship, resulting in the creation of conditions for democratic forces to come to power. The possibility of finding a peaceful settlement to the longstanding conflict between Azerbaijan and Armenia became real.

After the presidential elections of 7 June, there were even more favorable conditions for a peaceful settlement of the conflict. The document notes that over this short period of time, Azerbaijan has undertaken a number of peace-making and diplomatic moves aimed at setting the talks process in motion.

Further on Statement

LD1406152992 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1250 GMT 14 Jun 92

[By AZERINFORM correspondent for TASS]

[Text] Baku, 14 Jun—"An Armenian expansion in relation to Azerbaijani lands has long gone beyond the borders of Nagorno-Karabakh and has been getting more extensive during the past few days. Combat operations by the Armenian armed forces have been especially stepped up since the seizure of Shusha and Lachin," says a statement by the Azerbaijani president's press service distributed through AZERINFORM channels today. "Massive attacks which began on 9 June—and which are still continuing—have been undertaken by the Armenian armed forces against populated areas in the Kazakh, Tavush, Agdam, Terter, Geranboy, and other districts of Azerbaijan. Azerbaijani towns and villages are being destroyed. Hundreds of civilians are dying. An increased flow of refugees to Baku is being observed from districts adjacent to Armenia and Karabakh, which has made the situation extremely complex."

The statement stresses that "at present the Armenian Government is continuing to create a powerful concentration of aircraft, heavy combat equipment, and personnel—among them a large number of mercenaries of foreign origin—on the territory of the former Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast via the Lachin 'humanitarian' corridor. Large-scale operations to seize new Azerbaijani lands and to eliminate and deport thousands of civilians are being prepared. All this is being accompained by regular statements issued by the leadership of the neighboring republic on new forms of genocide against Armenians."

"The absence of the Armenian community delegation at the first round of the Rome meeting only underlines once again the desire of Armenia to torpedo via its actions the aspirations of the new Azerbaijani leadership for a peaceful settlement to the conflict," the document emphasizes. "The international community should know that the Armenian aggression will not cease and will not halt until international peacemaking organizations stop the aggressor by the most resolute sanctions. We appeal to all parliaments and peoples of the world to demand an immediate cease-fire and to protect the civilians and the people of Azerbaijan from physical elimination."

Russian Army Commander Denies Units' Role

LD1406113392 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1000 GMT 14 Jun 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Major General Nikolay Popov, commander of the 4th Russian Army stationed in Azerbiajan, has categorically denied reports by a number of news agencies that subunits from the 4th Army are taking part in the hostilities in the conflict area.

People's Front Issues Statement on Media Reports

LD1306164892 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1625 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] Moscow, 13 June (ITAR-TASS)—Judging by reports from Nagorno-Karabakh the situation here has deteriorated considerably over the last 24 hours. According to reports from the Karabakh news agency, today the Azerbaijani side used chemical weapons against the civilian population of the settlement of Shaumyanovsk. In the morning bombs containing toxic substances were dropped on it. Several dozen people show signs of chemical poisoning. Last night Azerbaijani armed formations continued the operation against Nagorno-Karabakh begun on Friday evening, seizing the Armenian village of Kichan. Since this morning the Azerbaijani side has been trying to broaden the area of its combat operations, surrounding the Armenian villages of Chaldram and Kolatak with tanks and artillery. There are reports of dead, wounded and fresh destruction.

A Nagorno-Karabakh Republic delegation has interrupted its visit to Moscow due to the start of the large-scale offensive by Azerbaijani armed formations against Nagorno-Karabakh. It was conducting political consultations here with Mario Rafaelli, chairman of the Minsk CSCE conference on Nagorno-Karabakh, Ferdinando Salleo, Italian ambassador to Russia, and representatives of the Russian Foreign Ministry.

Meanwhile, the AZERINFORM agency reports from the Azerbaijan capital, Baku, that last night the artillery rocket shelling of villages in Fizulinskiy rayon continued; 10 civilians were wounded and a great deal of destruction caused. In the last few days Agdam and adjacent villages have been shelled by Grad devices; many houses have been destroyed and there are numerous casualties.

In a statement issued in Baku, the executive committee of the People's Front of Azerbaijan voiced disagreement with the Russian Television coverage of the latest events in Nagorno-Karabakh, pointing out that it is "according to a familiar scenario." Also, just as it did just before Khodzhali, Shusha and Lachin were taken, the statement says, Russian Television is now pushing hard reports it well knows to be false, namely that the Azerbaijani side is preparing a large-scale attack on Khankendi. The leaders of the People's Front of Azerbaijan are of the view that all this, which serves to destabilize the situation in Azerbaijan, puts in jeopardy the existence of national statehood in the republic and as a whole creates prerequisites for a social explosion. The People's Front of Azerbaijan called upon all those committed to a rapid solution of the conflict to join in political dialogue and cooperation.

Georgia

Mixed Cease-Fire Observer Group Begins Work

LD1206202392 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1600 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Text] As the IPRINDA news agency reports, the mixed Georgian-Ossetian group to observe the cease-fire is beginning work in Tskhinvali today in accordance with the Kazbegi protocol.

The group includes representatives of the Transcaucasian Military District.

This morning, at talks between the sides with the mediation of the district deputy commander Sufiyan Beppayev, an agreement was reached on the transfer of the group of observers to the area of conflict. It will be located on the territory of the helicopter regiment stationed in Tskhinvali.

Nevertheless, as IPRINDA reports, combat operations in the Tskhinvali area are continuing. Early this morning, Ossetian armed formations shelled several Georgian villages. The agency notes that the Georgian side did not return fire.

Situation 'Tense'; Yeltsin Offers To Mediate

LD1206195592 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1933 GMT 12 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Shanayev]

[Text] Vladikavkaz, June 12 TASS—Chairman of the South Ossetian Council of Ministers and Commander of the republican armed forces Oleg Teziyev was detained by a special unit in Vladikavkaz today on the basis of materials from the military procurator's office.

Ten small arms, a large sum of money and important documents were found in his car, said Vladikavkaz Commandant and Deputy Interior Minister of Northern Ossetia Soslan Sikoyev.

After an hour-long interrogation, Teziyev was freed. There is no information on his whereabouts.

"The situation in Northern Ossetia is extremely tense," chairman of the North Ossetian Supreme Soviet Akhsarbek Galazov said here over the republican TV.

Galazov called on residents of northern Ossetia, where representatives of 100 nationalities live, to remain calm, show restraint and not to yield to statements of instigators and extremists.

The parliament head noted the republic renders assistance to residents of southern Ossetia, where an undeclared war is on. The republic has accepted about 130,000 refugees and accommodated them. However, there were extremists among them, who brought the deceived people to attack military storages in order to seize arms and ship them to southern Ossetia.

The republic is swept over by crime and robbery. Thus, the North Ossetian Supreme Soviet has decided to declare the state of emergency in some areas, and a curfew in Vladikavkaz.

Galazov said on request of the republican leadership special units arrived in the republic from various Russian areas to provide for the fulfilment of the state of emergency regime and curfew, as well as to combat criminals.

Additional forces will soon arrive at the Vladikavkaz airport by air to help patrol North Ossetian populated localities.

He said Russian President Boris Yeltsin is attentively watching the alarming developments in northern and southern Ossetias. The president keeps constant telephone contact with Vladikavkaz. He said he is ready to be a most active mediator in the settlement of the Ossetian-Georgian conflict in southern Ossetia.

The Vladikavkaz commandant reported all military facilities and Vladikavkaz garrison materiel storages are under enhanced protection of special Interior units and the Ossetian militia.

Deputy Chairman Survives Car Bomb Attack

LD1306144292 Moscow Mayak Radio Network
in Russian 1247 GMT 13 Jun 92

[IPRINDA correspondent Zurab Dvali report from Tbilisi]

[Text] Good afternoon. Event number one today, which has shaken all Tbilisi, is the attempt on the life of Dzhaba Ioseliani, deputy chairman of the State Council and leader of the Mkhedrioni paramilitary formation. At about 1130, as Ioseliani was driving along near his home on (Seliani) Street, a Zaporozhets car parked next to the sidewalk suddenly exploded. It seems that a remote-control explosive device was slow to detonate; the explosion occurred literally just a few seconds after the car in which Ioseliani was traveling passed by the dynamite-filled Zaporozhets.

Shrapnel damaged a car carrying his bodyguards. Neither the Mkhedrioni leader nor the persons accompanying him were injured, but there were casualties nonetheless. Two passers-by were killed on the spot and two more died after they were taken to the hospital. Four people who happened to be in the area were seriously injured. Most of those who suffered are women and children.

The explosion was so powerful that it caused noticeable damage to nearby buildings, to say nothing of the windows that were blown out all along the street.

An IPRINDA correspondent was told by residents of a house near the site of the tragedy that the Zaporozhets had been left in the street by an unknown person two days ago. An investigation into the incident is under way. There are many different accounts.

It is interesting that precisely today the paramilitary Mkhedrioni group planned to meet in Tbilisi's chess palace. An IPRINDA correspondent was told that one speaker at the meeting made the following comment on today's terrorist act: If Dzhaba had died, not only the Mkhedrioni would have died, but all Georgia.

The meeting was held anyway. Basically, two questions were considered—the disarming of the Mkhedrioni and the creation of a special commission to provide help for the families of members of the organization who have been killed. I will dwell on the first question, the solution of which has long been sought by the representatives of a number of political parties in Georgia and by members of the State Council. It was decided to preserve the right of Mkhedrioni members to carry firearms, but they should not appear in the streets with them after 15 June.

Our correspondent has just this minute returned from the Mkhedrioni meeting. He asked Dzhaba Ioseliani to comment on the incident that occurred today, and Ioseliani said the following: It is the hallmark of enemies of the people who use purely fascist methods of struggle. I did not want to take part in the elections, but I will certainly do so now.

After the attempt on the life of the leader of the Mkhedrioni, the members of that paramilitary group will not agree to give up their weapons for a long time.

Shevardnadze Comments

OW1306165492 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1633 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Chairman of the Georgian State Council Eduard Shevardnadze qualified an attempt upon the life of his deputy in the State Council, leader of "Mkhedrioni" organization as a crime against the democratic processes going on in the republic. Speaking at the session of the State Council Saturday [13 June], Shevardnadze stressed the inadmissibility of opposing terror by terror" [end quotations as received]. "We must ensure triumph of law", he underlined.

At the session the Georgian Internal Minister Roman Gventsadze said that in the result of an explosion in Chikovani street in midday on June 13, 4 people were killed and 10 wounded. The employees of the Internal Ministry determined that an explosive—trotyl—was laid down in a red "Zaporozhets" car.

The State Council expressed its condolences to the relatives of the victims "to all the innocent people who became the victims of political intrigues and ambitions".

At present the Georgian State Council is developing a political statement in connection with an attempt on Ioseliani's life.

State Council Issues Statement

AU1506162792 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1300 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Statement issued by the Republic of Georgia State Council; place and date not given]

[Text] On 13 June at 1045 a terrorist act was perpetrated on Chikovani Street in Tbilisi. A powerful (?bomb) planted in an automobile exploded. As a result of this (?tragedy), five people were killed, including one child, and several were injured. The explosion caused considerable material damage, including serious damage to buildings. The explosion occured near the residence of Jaba Ioseliani, acting deputy chairman of the State Council. Several seconds earlier Batoni Jaba's car had passed the site of the explosion. One of the people accompanying him was injured. The State Council shares the indignation of all honest citizens in regard to this savage action. A special commission has been formed to investigate the circumstances of this terrorist act. The law enforcement authorities have been charged with (?finding) the organizers and [word indistinct].

The Republic of Georgia State Council expresses its sincerest condolences to the families and relatives of the deceased. The Chikovani Street tragedy represents one link in the long chain of very serious crimes [words indistinct] demolition of bridges, tunnels, and railway lines, road blockades, torture and slaughter, kidnapping for ransom [words indistinct] The brazen behavior of criminals knows no limits. They are afraid of no one and nothing. They are committing the most serious crimes in broad daylight and are acting extremely cynically. They are trying to undermine all measures aimed at stabilization.

Of what value is the fact that steps are being taken to achieve peace in the Tskhinvali region when they are followed by an unprecedented escalation of combat actions? Missiles were being fired in Tskhinvali at a time when the country's leaders were trying to conduct peace negotiations there. The time and place of this latest tragedy were chosen purposefully.

Recently decisive measures have been outlined in order to restore peace and order in Georgia, which the 13 June terrorist action is replying to. There is not one civilized state in the world that answers terror with terror. The Georgian authorities (?resort) will not resort to terror but do everything to (?eradicate) the terrorists and punish them to the maximum extent of the law. What occured on Chikovali Street is an extraordinary matter. It is the culmination of the recent catastrophic increase in crimes. The killers did not (?shrink from the fact) that their designs would certainly result in the deaths of totally innocent people and they (?even sacrificed) women and children.

The government and the law enforcement authorities are obliged to take emergency measures. The enemies of the Georgian people have fired at Georgia, fired perfidiously. Those inside and outside the country who wish us ill do not want to reconcile themselves to the consolidation of Georgian society, as a result of which the [word indistinct] threat of civil war almost has been overcome. The discharging of political and social tension whose tendency has recently [words indistinct] does not suit them. The Georgian State Council is (?absolutely confident) that no terror and escalation of tension [words indistinct] will stop the process of building democracy [words indistinct] The State Council calls upon all citizens (?to preserve) peace, a high degree of organization, and order [passage indistinct] peace, stability and democracy in the country.

[Signed] Eduard Shevardnadze, chairman of the Republic of Georgia State Council.
Vakhtang Goguadze, secretary of the Republic of Georgia State Council.

Fighting in South Ossetia Despite Cease-Fire

OW1306135192 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1315 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Georgian Internal Ministry press center reports that, notwithstanding an agreement on cease-fire reached in Kazbegi some days ago, firing is going on in South Ossetia.

Friday [12 June] the Ossetian combatants covered with fire a Georgian village Achabeti from two armored vehicles, as a result two local residents were wounded. On Saturday [13 June] night before 4 o'clock in the morning they covered by fire some more Georgian villages. After that the Georgian party opened fire in return, the Georgian Internal Ministry says. Two guardians were wounded.

The deputy commander of the Transcaucasian military district Sufiyan Beppayev declared in his interview with "IF" [INTERFAX] that in spite of the promises of the confronting parties a combat engineering and a helicopter regiments stationed in Tskhinvali region are repeatedly shelled.

According to Beppayev, the Georgian and Ossetian supervisors are to begin their work on the territory of the helicopter regiment on Saturday. A joint press center is expected to be organized there. General Beppayev intends to personally carry out mediatory functions to establish contacts between the confronting parties. The field commanders are supposed to conduct a meeding with his participation on June 13.

2 Russian Soldiers Die in Clash With Guards

LD1306174992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1742 GMT 13 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Tbilisi, June 13 TASS—Units of the Georgian National Guard seized two hostages, including the Gori mayor, at about 5 p.m. today and demanded that the commander of the Gori tank regiment of the Russian troops give them materiel and arms.

As the commander bluntly refused to do it, the Georgian guards opened disorderly fire at the military unit and then attacked it.

As a result, two servicemen of the Russian troops were killed, two women and a child gravely wounded, assistant commander of the Transcaucasian Military District Colonel Vasily Pechenkov told ITAR-TASS.

"The servicemen had nothing to do but stand up for themselves. The unit's personnel supported by tanks repulsed the attack and seized twelve people. It appeared they are guards from a Georgian National Guard battalion stationed in Khashuri," said the colonel.

Attack on CIS Division Kills 14, Wounds 41

OW1406135792 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1320 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] It is now known that fourteen people were killed and forty-one others injured on Saturday [12 June] (at about 17 hours local time) after Georgian national guards attacked a CIS tank division deployed in Gori, Georgia's deputy prime minister Aleksandr Kavsadze told IF [INTERFAX]. On the same day, the scene of the incident was attended by government commission officials and representatives of the Transcaucasian military district.

National Guard Officer on Cease-Fire Violation

LD1306200792 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Report by correspondent N. Gongadze on the "Novisti" newsast]

[Text] Despite appeals for peace, for dialogue, last night the cease-fire treaty was violated again. By 2000 hours Ossetian armed fighters attacked the village of Mamisontubani and a traffic inspectorate checkpoint of the Goriyskiy Rayon of Georgia. According to intelligence data the armed detachment of Ossetians numbered 1,000 people. Concentrated shelling from howitzers and large-calibre machineguns continued until 0400 in the morning. As a result of clashes several guardsmen have been wounded.

[Begin recording] [B. Grigolashvili, head of operations branch of the National Guard of Georgia] We were forced to return fire. There were even moments when the Ossetians entered and occupied this territory. But in an hour or two we were forced to push them back to their side. It has been calm since the morning, but you can see that the exchange of fire has started again. [end recording]

Another exchange of fire has started. It is now 1300 in the afternoon.

Gori Clashes End After Military Intervention

LD1406172692 Moscow Programma Radio Odin Network in Russian 1500 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Text] In the Georgian town of Gori, an attack was carried out against a tank regiment of Russian forces last night, resulting in deaths and casualties. Helicopters of the Transcaucasian Military District air force were used to repel the attack.

The attackers were clad in camouflage military-type uniforms of the Georgian National Guards. The Transcaucasian Military District press center and the independent press center of Georgian journalists reported that the armed clash stopped following the arrival to the location and active intervention by Lieutenant General Beppayev Rispayev, deputy commander of the Transcaucasian Military District, and Tengiz Kitovani, first deputy prime minister and defence minister of Georgia, who arrived at the site of the incident.

Both the situation in Gori and the military unit are currently under control [kontroliruyetsya]. Criminal charges have been filed in connection with the incident and an investigation is under way.

Leaders Not Blamed for Gori Shooting Incident

OW1406155792 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1544 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The assistant commander of the Transcaucasian military district, General-Lieutenant Sufian Beppayev, who told IF [INTERFAX] that military officials did not blame yesterday's shooting incident in Gori on Georgian leaders warned against any attacks on the servicemen or their dependants.

The army official said he had arrived in Gori together with deputy Georgian prime minister Aleksandr Kavsadze and defence minister Tengiz Kitovani as soon as the news about clashes came on Saturday [13 June]. "What we saw was nothing short of real fighting and we had great difficulty in bringing an end to the bloodshed", Beppayev said. More than 100 National Guards were involved in the attack which left three servicemen dead and six others woundel incading an officer's little daughter.

The Georgian side said the attackers, apparently of the Guard's faction no longer under cennal command, had eleven of their members killed and 35 others injured.

The general spoke of relative calm settling in Tskhinvali region in the past twenty four hours but sporadic gunfire could also be heard. Ossetian and Georgian observers who are now at a helicopter regiment base have begun work to enforce the ceasefire.

Tskhinvali Subjected to 'Intense Shelling'

LD1406080492 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0644 GMT 14 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Shanayev]

[Text] Vladikavkaz, 14 Jun—Last night was once again an alarming one in the Tskhinvali area. According to the South Ossetian Supreme Soviet and the North Ossetian SSR Ministry of Security, Tskhinvali and neighboring Ossetian villages were subjected to sporadic but intense shelling from the Georgian villages of Nikozi, Ergneti, Tamarasheni, Kekhvi, and Mevgrekisi. Large-caliber machine guns, mortars, and field guns were used. After 0600, the fire came from automatic weapons.

According to unconfirmed information, six town defenders and civilian inhabitants were killed and 12 were wounded. The casualties include women and children. Detachments of the Ossetian Guard, self-defense units, and volunteer formations responded with retaliatory fire to silence the attackers' firing points.

Following the arrival in North Ossetia of special-purpose motorized rifle division detachments, the situation in Vladikavkaz and rural districts under the state of emergency has stabilized to a certain extent. According to City Commandant Soslan Sikoyev, 12 checkpoints have already been set up in the republic and all types of vehicles are being checked. Cargoes and documents are being verified. As a result, over 30 firearms and edged weapons have been confiscated from citizens—who have been detained—in the last 48 hours. The export of important goods from the republic has been prevented and extremist actions thwarted. Special attention has been paid to military installations and barracks areas used by the Vladikavkaz garrison. Reinforced military and police patrols are maintaining a 24-hour guard there to prevent the seizure of weapons and equipment.

Afghan war veterans have held a rally in Vladikavkaz. A peacekeeping unit of former Afghan veterans was formed in accordance with the protocol signed in Kazbegi by Akhsarbek Galazov, chairman of the North Ossetian SSR Supreme Soviet, and Georgian State Council Chairman Eduard Shevardnadze. The unit will be sent to the Tskhinvali area, where it will take part in actions to stabilize the situation in the region, alongside a similar Georgian unit.

13 Killed in Past 24 Hours

LD1406140992 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1100 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Text] According to information from the Tskhinvali defense headquarters 13 people have been killed and 19 wounded over the past 24 hours. Two more are missing.

In an INTERFAX interview Oleg Teziyev, prime minister of South Ossetia, stated that while not declining talks the Ossetian side must maintain a stiff defense. According to him it would be possible in Tskhinvali at present to put 5,000 people under arms. There are sufficient shells and ammunition to last a year. Meanwhile, the first volunteers to be assembled by the Confederation of Caucasian Mountain Peoples have arrived in the town.

The South Ossetian authorities are more and more steadfastly asking Russia to intervene in the conflict. Torez Kulumbegov, chairman of the Supreme Soviet, has appealed to Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy and Sergey Filatov, deputy chairman of the Russian parliament, saying that the situation is growing more complex by the minute. Only Russia's immediate intervention can save the Ossetians from being completely annihilated by Georgian combatants. That is what Kulumbegov claims.

S. Ossetian Officials Appeal To Russia for Help

OW1406135992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1320 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Tskhinvali defense headquarters reports this Sunday [14 June] morning that throughout the previous day and night the defenders' casualties amounted to 13 dead, 19 wounded, and 2 unaccounted for. Georgia's Ministry of Internal Affairs informs in the meantime that the area of Tskhinvali was "completely untroubled".

In his interview to an Interfax correspondent there, Oleg Teziyev, Ossetian prime minister, said that "in acknowledging the exigency of talks, Tskhinvali nonetheless has to conduct stubborn defense", which implies the use of the entire inventory of weapons at the defenders' disposal. Five truckloads of artillery projectiles have been delivered to the city, several self-propelled artillery pieces forthcoming.

According to Oleg Teziyev, Tskhinvali defenders have enough small arms ammunition and 100-mm shells to sustain them for a year ahead. In his words, given enough weapons, the city can marshal a 5,000 strong force.

Meanwhile, first groups of unarmed volunteers mobilized by the Confederation of the Caucasus Highlanders are heading toward the city. The "Alania" news agency reports that 27 of them have already arrived in Tskhinvali to take part in combat and assess South Ossetia's manpower requirements.

Yuriy Shanibov, the Confederation's chairman, informs Interfax that a volunteer marshalling campaign for the defense of Tskhinvali has been initiated throughout the entire Caucasus.

Appeals of the South Ossetian administration to Russia to interfere in the conflict are becoming more and more insistent. In the official address to first deputy chairman of Russia's Supreme Council Sergey Filatov and vice president Aleksandr Rutskoy, South Ossetia's chairman of the Supreme council Thorez Kulumbegov contends that "the situation is aggravating with every passing minute. Russia's abstention from taking active measures provokes Georgian raiders to perpetrate new crimes against peaceful population". Thorez Kulumbegov maintains that the Ossetians could be delivered of complete extermination only by Russia's immediate military interference.

Minister To Use Force if Attacks Continue

LD1406155992 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1445 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Report over video by presenter Tatyana Mitkova; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] We have had some technical difficulties, but now I can return to the part of our bulletin dealing with news from the conflict zones.

The NEGA News Agency cites an interview with Georgian Defense Minister Tengiz Kitovani, in which he makes it clear that he hopes for a solution to the Tskhinvali problem if North Ossetia responds positively to Georgia's proposals. If attacks on Georgian villages and terrorist acts do not cease, there will be only one option—force, he said.

For his part, South Ossetian leader Taras Kulumbekov has described the situation in Tskhinvali as close to catastrophe. At midday today, Tskhinvali was still being shelled. Six have been killed and 13 injured. RIA reports a concentration of heavy artillery on the Georgian side.

According to data from the defense headquarters in Tskhinvali, there are now many more casualties from the shelling. The Georgian Interior Ministry reports that the Tskhinvali area is absolutely calm. The first volunteers assembled by the Confederation of Caucasus Mountain Peoples have been sent to the town.

Tskhinvali 'Falling Into Ruins' From Shelling

LD1406224892 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 2003 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Video report by I. Tabolova; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Since this morning there has been intensive shelling of Tskhinvali. The victims of last night, six dead and 13 wounded, will no doubt be joined by fresh casualties after such a massive bombardment. Tskhinvali is increasingly falling into ruins. Artillery fire aimed from the heights recently captured by the Georgian armed formations has destroyed hundreds of apartments as well as the town's old Jewish quarter, which has been completely destroyed along with the new synagogue.

In this war being waged against Tskhinvali none of the rules and laws generally accepted even in wartime are in operation. The hospital crammed with wounded is coming under fire, aimed fire moreover, and it now has no approach for either drivers or pedestrians. Anyone who goes near it risks his life.

Such are the hard facts testifying to the situation in Tskhinvali today. These facts have been confirmed by representatives of the New Russia block of democratic parties led by Vladimir Filin. The group has just returned from this dangerous zone.

Guards Called to Barracks To Isolate Imposters

LD1506141492 Moscow POSTFACTUM in English 1106 GMT 15 Jun 92

[From the "Military News" section]

[Text] Tbilisi—As of June 15, detachments of the Georgian National Guard and the Mkhedrioni Units were called to the barracks' position. In line with a regulation of the Georgian authorities, members of all armed formations should not carry arms outside their permanent quarters. The police may detain violators and take all necessary measures. Georgian Interior Minister Roman Gventadze said, speaking at a meeting of law-enforcement agencies on June 15, that the regulation makes it easier to isolate armed persons who dress up in the National Guard uniform with criminal purposes.

Armed Forces Begin Second Stage of Call-Up

LD1206201392 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Video report by correspondent N. Gongadze]

[Text] The second stage of a call-up to the Georgian Armed Forces has begun in the republic. A unified army is being created. All legal and illeagal formations, groups and detachments will be included in it. From now on any type of weapon will be registered and handed over for safe-keeping. National Guard and Mkhedrioni units will be leaving for the locations where they will be stationed before 15 June. The conditions of the protocol signed by the leaders of Georgia and North Ossetia in Kazbegi is being implemented. The first group of observers have left for Tskhinvali today. Interethnic battalions are being created to stabilize the situation in the conflict region. [video shows Gongadze interviewing N. Georgadze, first deputy Georgian defense minister and chairman of the Georgian union of Afghan veterans]

[Begin Georgadze recording] The battalion will be formed on the basis of Afghan veterans of all nationalities who live in Georgia. The participation of other states, including the Russia Federation and North Ossetia, has not been ruled out. The battalion will number approximately 500 servicemen. A meeting of Afghan veterans of the Caucasus region with those from other states participating will take place in Tbilisi on 16-17 June. These are the issues that will be mostly discussed there. [end recording]

[Gongadze] There has been no shooting since 0100 hours in the Tskhinvali region from both sides. This was revealed by the Georgian State Council spokesman Major General Robinzon Tushvarashvili.

Latvia

Authorities Cut Off Training Unit's Supplies

PM1206144692 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Jun 92 p 3

[Report from the Northwestern Group of Forces by Colonel M. Ziyeminsh: "In Latvia's Saldusskiy Rayon They Have Completely Cut Off Electricity, Water, and Bread Supplies to the Aviation Training Area in the Hope That It Will Accelerate the Withdrawal of Russian Forces"]

[Text] In 1955 the then Latvian Council of Ministers decided to establish an aviation training area, occupying 24.4 hectares, on the territory of Saldusskiy and Dobelskiy Rayons. Since then the airmen of the Baltic Military District, now the Northwestern Group of Forces, have carried out their combat training there. Although, I was told at the Northwestern Group of Forces Air Force Headquarters, there has been considerably less bombing of late than in the past, major tactical flying exercises have ceased completely, bombs of a smaller caliber have been used, and missiles have stopped being launched. But despite the altered political situation in the republic the airmen's combat training cannot be stopped completely, let alone overnight...

But that is the option representatives of the local authorities are insisting on. And they are not confining themselves to words alone. The Saldus council, headed by Andris Rozental, ruled that electricity, water, and bread supplies to the training area should cease, and telephone communications have also been cut off. The Saldus home guard battalion has started examining vehicles bound for the training area.

Russian Army Deploys 120 Recruits at Liepaja

LD1306105492 Riga Radio Riga International in English 2030 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Text] The State Service Department of the Latvian seaport town of Liepaja informed the daily 'DIENA' that Russian Army had finally managed to bring 120 recruits to Liepaja, despite the earlier attempts by the Latvian officials to block the move. It was said that the soldiers came to Liepaja from the Riga seaport where a Russian landing craft docked last Friday [5 June] after it had been denied entry into the Liepaja port a week before.

Gorbunovs Responds To Military Coup Rumor

LD1306034392 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1000 GMT 11 Jun 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Vladimir Kondalovskiy, chairman of the officers' assembly of the group of Russian troops in Latvia, issued a statement to the press in which he warns of a military coup allegedly being planned in the Republic. Latvian Supreme Council Chairman Anatolijs Gorbunovs has signed a statement in response that says that the officers' assembly's activities have often been linked to a desire to destabilize the situation and to take into its hands effective leadership of the group of Russian troops in Latvia.

IMF Makes Recommendations To Improve Economy

LD1506104692 Moscow POSTFACTUM in English 09334 GMT 15 Jun 92

[From the "Politics" section]

[Text] Riga—The Latvian Government can now choose between borrowing from the IMF or relying on Latvia's own resources. This is the opinion of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) based on the study of economic situation in this Baltic Republic.

According to IMF experts, production decline may reach 30 percent in Latvia if the republic chooses the latter possibility. The IMF has also developed measures to eliminate Latvia's budget deficit, which amounted to 1.7 billion rubles in the first half of 1992. The IMF suggests that Latvia lift all restrictions on profits and turnover taxes and introduce a 15-percent import tariffs on all types of commodities. State subsidies to agro-businesses should also be reduced to a minimum and food and agricultural produce prices liberalized. In addition, bank credit should be restricted and interest rates freed. Wages in state-run sectors of the economy must be restricted and should not increase faster than prices. When commenting on these suggestions Sergey Dimanis, Cand. of Sc. [candidate of sciences] (economics) and chairman of the oppositional Ravnopraviye (Equality) Party, said to a PF [POSTFACTUM] correspondent:

When suggesting these universal ways of improving the Latvian economy, the IMF does not take into consideration that a rather powerful but non-market economy has developed in Latvia. And it can not be restructured by shock-therapy methods. Introduction of world prices for primary fuels in the present situation, and with the present production inefficiency and excessive labor supply, will only result in Latvian residents being unable to pay even for heating their homes. And this will inevitably result in a social upheaval. As for the agricultural sector, which is subsidized even in European market economies, abolition of state subsidies will not help create the agricultural produce market in the republic. I do not understand what the IMF wants from us, because credit is already unavailable in Latvia and investment has decreased virtually to a nil. Credit can now be provided only in accordance with the agreements attained with the Russian Federation Central Bank and Latvia can only follow Russia's policy. Elmars Silins, Latvia's minister of finance, said that the government must take the IMF suggestions into account and added: As everything that has happened has already happened and we can do nothing but dance to the IMF tune, we should not at least lose our dignity.

Lithuania

Soviet Army 'Inflicted' $150 Billion Damage

OW1206155192 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1448 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] According to preliminary estimates, the damage inflicted on Lthuania by the Soviet army over the past 50 years amounts to 150 billion dollars, member of the Lithuanian delegation to the talks with Russia, Minister Aleksandras Abisala told BF [BALTFAX]. He refused to specify the estimate saying that by mutual agreement details will not be given before the final estimate is made.

He described the figures published by some of the Lithuanian newspapers as a mess.

Leader of the working group for evaluating the damage Romualdas Ozolas hopes that during the next meeting between the delegations of the two states, Russia will officially respond to Lithuania's demand that the damage inflicted on it by the Soviety army be compensated.

Ozolas told the weekly Gimtasis Krastas that Russia refuses to discuss this problem for several reasons. First, Russia does not consider herself to be the Soviet Union's successor in this aspect and, second, Russia has no money to compensate for the inflicted damage.

The Lithuanian delegation proposed various ways of compensating for the inflicted damage, including arms and oil supplies, he said.

"The main problem is to come to terms on the fact that such damage was inflicted and on its size," said Ozolas.

Budget Detailed

LD1406043892 Vilnius Radio Vilnius International Service in Lithuanian 2100 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Excerpts] The working group of the Lithuanian delegation negotiating with Russia, which establishes the damage inflicted by the Army, reports that the Soviet Union seized more than $33 million in Lithuanian Army property in 1940. The BALTIC NEWS SERVICE reports $34.5 million in losses due to the fact that from 1946 to 1990 many people did not work in Lithuania because they were serving in the Soviet Army. Damage to Lithuanian land used for foreign Army bases amounts to $32 million while damage to Lithuania's environment totals $30.5 million. Compensation to Lithuanian citizens whose health was affected while serving in the Army amounts to about $14 million; compensation for Lithuanian youths who lost their lives while serving in the Soviet Army has yet to be established. The Army inflicted $68 million in damage after independence was restored in 1990-1992.

Lithuania submitted an account for damages inflicted by the Army at Lithuanian-Russian talks in Moscow at the end of May. The bill so far amounts to $47 billion with still more damages to be added. [passage omitted]

Negotiator Romualdas Ozolas said in a GIMTASIS KRASTAS interview that Russia so far has been avoiding examination of the damage and its compensation during talks. However, Lithuania submitted official information on the inflicted losses at the delegations' last meeting. Romualdas Ozolas says that Russian negotiators say that their state is not the same as the Soviet Union; thus, it is not responsible for damage caused by the USSR. They also reject the statement that Lithuania never joined the Soviet Union and maintain that it is impossible to distinguish which and where are the losses of the former Soviet Republics. Romualdas Ozolas says that the third and most important argument at present is that Russia simply is unable to settle accounts. Lithuania's delegation proposes various means of compensation, i.e. Russia restores the Lithuanian Army, pays with oil, and so on.

Romualdas Ozolas feels that the whole problem concerns an agreement on the very fact of the damage and the future of that damage.

[Vilnius Radio Vilnius International Service in Lithuanian at 2100 GMT on 12 June adds: "Preliminary estimates of the damage the Soviet Army inflicted on Lithuania over 50 years amount to about $150 billion, Minister Aleksandras Abisala, Lithuanian delegation coordinator, confirmed for the BALTIC NEWS SERVICE. He says that he refuses to provide a more detailed account on losses in specific areas because the experts have agreed to wait until more accurate, final tabulations are completed. Aleksandras Abisala referred to the assessment of damages to certain areas that have appeared in the Lithuanian press recently as tangle. During yesterday's broadcast, you heard an assessment of some of the damages inflicted by the Soviet Army. The BALTIC NEWS SERVICE bases its reports on the data reported by Romualdas Ozolas, a member of the Lithuanian delegation negotiating with Russia. Aleksandras Abisala noted that the $150 billion in damages will be specified after assessing losses of the Lithuanian people and a negative ecological influence on the environment in the territories still occupied by the Russian Army."]

Run Up To Referendum on Troop Withdrawal Eyed

Sajudis Urges Citizens To Vote

LD1406045192 Vilnius Radio Vilnius in English 2300 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Text] Today, the executive council of the Lithuanian grass-roots movement Sajudis published a statement regarding the referendum of 14 June. Juozas Tumelis, chairman of the Sajudis movement, said it was hardly possible to make an account of how much harm to

Lithuania and its people had been done by the former Soviet Army. In his statement, Tumelis went on to say the following:

[Begin Tumelis recording in Lithuanian, fading to English translation] As long as the foreign Army of occupation is stationed in Lithuania and as long as provocations on the part of the Army do not stop, the threat of enslavement is still hanging over Central and Eastern Europe. Negotiations on the withdrawal of the foreign Army are in a deadlock, and Lithuania is getting ever more convinced that the Army is not going to withdraw, though its presence in Lithuania has been unlawful from the very start. By the referendum of 14 June, Lithuania seeks to remind once again that the occupation of territories of foreign states runs counter to the Helsinki agreements and the norms of international relations. The statement of the Sajudis movement calls upon the people of Lithuania to support the striving for the freedom and independence of Lithuania and expresses the hope that all the citizens of Lithuania will take part in the 14 June referendum on the withdrawal of the foreign Army, held on the day of the first mass deportations to Siberia in 1940. [end recording]

Districts Prepare

LD1406055592 Vilnius Radio Vilnius International Service in Lithuanian 2100 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Excerpt] The referendum on the Russian Army's withdrawal from Lithuania will take place on 14 June. Data provided by the Republic's electoral commission shows that all 2,150 electoral districts have prepared for a smooth referendum. Voters lists have been checked once again. Rural districts have taken care of transporting those who live far away to the polling places.

Over 2.5 million citizens have the right to vote in Lithuania. Mindful of duty and responsibility before Lithuania and their own children, 2.5 million people should say yes on 14 June.

The referendum ballot card contains the written passages: I demand that the pullout of the former Soviet Army from the territory of the Republic of Lithuania be initiated immediately and be completed in 1992 and that compensation be provided for damages incurred against the people and state of Lithuania. Citizens who demand this must cross out the word no and leave the word yes.

The Supreme Council this week amended the Election Law to increase voting time by five hours. Polling districts will work 0600-2300 [0300-2000 GMT]. Voting is expected to peak at noon, when all the churches in Lithuania will start ringing their bells. This will be the culmination of the day of mourning and hope that is being observed on 14 June. [passage omitted]

[Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian at 0446 GMT, in a Vilnius-datelined report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Kazis Ustsila, adds the following: "Unlike the 23 May referendum on restoring the Presidency (when opinions were divided almost equally), almost all political forces, even the most irreconcilable ones, are calling on people to participate in the referendum and to vote for the Army's withdrawal. The Republican election commission reports that about 2.5 million citizens of the Republic of Lithuania are eligible to vote on this question. Preliminary results of the referendum are expected late on 14 June."]

Media 'Disinformation' Examined

LD1406170292 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1300 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Excerpts] The Information and Analysis Center of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania has commented on Ostankino Television's disinformation.

At 2000 on 13 June, Ostankino Television's "Novosti" newscast carried a report on the Russian Army stationed in the Baltic states. The report cited official sources as saying that some major military formations are stationed in Lithuania—four anti-aircraft defense and military aviation divisions. According to various estimates, there are between 60,000 to 100,000 Russian soldiers in these formations. [passage omitted]

Ceslovas Stankevicius, deputy chairman of the Supreme Council of Lithuania and chief of the Lithuanian state delegation for negotiations with Russia, commented on this statement as follows: With respect to certain assertions, this commentary is totally fictitious. It has undoubtedly been intentionally released on the eve of the referendum. An attempt is being made to influence the referendum results through this statement and to give rise to doubts regarding Lithuania's firm demand to have the Soviet Army withdrawn from Lithuania this year.

Voting Figures Released

LD1406192292 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1800 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Figures as heard]

[Excerpts] ELTA reports that information has been received by the republican Election Commission about the progress of the referendum on troop withdrawal being held in 47 cities and rayons of the Republic of Lithuania. By 1600, 52.36 percent of the citizens with the right to vote had voted. [Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian at 1600 GMT lists this percentage as 58 percent]

Information is coming in from Vilnius, where 15 percent of all the voters of the republic are, as well as Panevezys, Alytus, and other cities. Unofficial reports say that about 70 percent of the citizens have already voted. [passage omitted] The lowest turnout is reported in Vilnius Rayon with only one-third of voters participating, and in Salcininkai and Ignalina rayons where only 39 percent in each have participated. [passage omitted]

'Over 90 Percent' Say 'Yes'

LD1506052292 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0500 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] Over 75 percent of the electorate participated in the Lithuanian referendum on the unconditional, immediate withdrawal of the former Soviet Army from the Republic of Lithuania before the end of the year and compensation for harm done to Lithuania. Over 90 percent of the electors who participated said yes to the Army's withdrawal this year.

A detailed account of the preliminary results will be given at a news conference in the Lithuanian parliament at 1000 today.

Official Says Referendum To 'Complicate' Ties

LD1506110392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1022 GMT 15 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[Text] Moscow June 15 TASS—"I think that the referendum held in Lithuania will complicate significantly the relationships between Russia and this state and certainly cannot help complicating the stay of our troops in the neighbouring country," Russian Parliamentary Defence and Security Committee Chairman Sergey Stepashin told ITAR-TASS.

He recalled the examples of "the civilised solution of such issues", specifically the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Hungary. Such agreements on moving out Russian troops from Poland and Germany are now being studied. "It is in this vein that we ought to have acted today," he noted.

Stepashin added: "I do not think the stay of our troops in Lithuania can jeopardise in any way democratic and other transformations in this state. It is exactly our troops and citizens of the Russian Federation that found themselves in the more complex situation."

Stepashin recalled that the right to hold referenda naturally belongs to the leaders of any state and the expression of the people's will is very important. "Generally speaking, the Lithuanian leadership's concern is understandable as all keep fresh the memory of the event that occurred 18 months ago. At the same time, I think the issue of moving out Russian troops should be solved not through a referendum. Especially since the armed forces themselves appeared to be ignored. Their stance, especially the position of the command of the armed forces was not taken into account. Therefore, I think issues of this kind should be solved at the level of inter-state relations and relevant agreements."

Stepashin confirmed that the problem of withdrawing troops from Lithuania does exist. He said the all-important thing today is to define their status as troops of another state stationed, in this case, on the territory of Lithaunia.

Another issue is the terms for the withdrawal of these troops. "Naturally, the terms for moving out the Russian Army should be clearly defined. They should proceed from the potentialities of the Russian armed forces and the economic and political situation shaping in Russia today."

Stepashin emphasised that today Russia "cannot physically pull out its troops before the end of this year as the issue in the referendum was formulated. The withdrawal of our troops means not only their movement anywhere—we are also interested in the defence of our western frontiers."

"Lastly, I would not want to link this issue with the stay of Russian troops but, nevertheless, I would like to draw the Lithuanian leaders' attention to the fact that the observance of human rights concerns all states that share the ideas of the declaration of human rights and the Helsinki agreements. Regrettably, the Lithuanian side does not fulfil these agreements in the part that concerns the non-indigenous population, especially Russians residing in Lithuania, including servicemen.

"This is evident especially since it was exactly Russia, Boris Yeltsin who actually saved democracy in Lithuania in the tragic days of January. Russia was the first to raise the issue of independence for Lithaunia after the August events. In this regard, one would like both the leaders and the public of Lithuania to be mindful of this circumstance in the specific present-day situation," Stepashin emphasised.